

CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE



Meet the Team 1B

Thursday, December 6, 2001

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Breakfast With Santa – a seasonal favorite



Photos by Linda Golinick

Local youngsters got a chance last Saturday to make their wishes known to the jolly, old elf himself -- Santa Claus. Many kids attended "Breakfast with Santa," sponsored by the Grayling Promotional Association and the ladies of Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church. They also picked up some great gift items.

Townships asked to help with zoning enforcement

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

Due to recent budget cuts, the position of county zoning enforcement officer is now without funding and the Crawford County Board of Commissioners is asking township supervisors in Beaver Creek, Maple Forest and South Branch for their help if the County is unable to come up with alternative funding.

Last week, we reported the "repeal of the County Zoning

Ordinance, eliminating the need for zoning enforcement officer effective January 1, 2002 unless funding can be secured to fund enforcement." Instead of a complete repeal of the ordinance, County Controller Paul Compo said the Board has opted to keep the ordinance, but ask for some help financing enforcement starting at the township level.

The elimination of the enforcement officer position came as a bit of a surprise to Building and Zoning

Director Joe Duran who said his department has been working very hard to address recent ordinance amendments and enforcement. "The work we are doing here is way beyond what we are being paid to do," he said, but added he understands budgets and the tough decisions that have to be made.

Duran said he is sorry to lose Brian Anderson's help and wished there had been more discussion with his department before the decision

was made to cut funding for his position. He is hopeful, however, the recent increases made to county fees will help bring in enough revenue to restore the position. Duran said he brought the idea of increases to the Board in years past, but the Commissioners were not ready to make the changes until now.

Township supervisors are expected to meet this week to discuss if or how they can help with zoning enforcement.

Jury finds Tironi guilty

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

Twelve jurors found former Grayling teen center owner, Michael Tironi, guilty on one count of 2nd Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct and two counts of furnishing alcohol to minors.

To find Tironi guilty of the criminal sexual conduct charge, the jury had to agree he used force or coercion causing personal injury and/or mental anguish to the victim.

Following 16 months of delays waiting for forensic evidence to be processed, the case finally went to trial November 26.

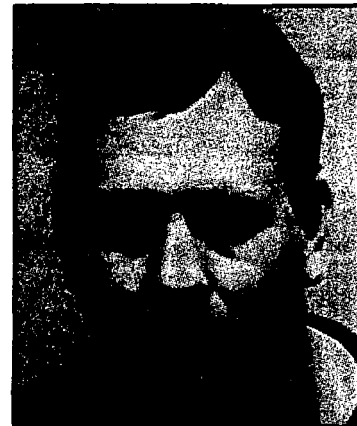
The verdict was rendered early last Thursday evening, November 29, in Kalkaska's 46th Circuit Court following four days of testimony. The trial went one day longer than anticipated. The jury, made up of men and women of many age groups, deliberated for more than three hours before making their decision.

The Honorable Judge Dennis F. Murphy heard the case and told Tironi following the verdict, "I found your testimony to be deeply disturbing," and remanded him to the custody of the Kalkaska Sheriff.

Tironi, now 40, was arrested August 23, 2000 following an investigation by the Kalkaska County Sheriff's Department after it received a complaint from an 18-year old Roscommon man stating he had been sexually assaulted while at the Tironi residence near the Grayling Township/Kalkaska County line in late July 2000.

The victim testified that after drinking beer and watching Internet pornography, Tironi "threw him down on the couch" and assaulted him sexually.

At the trial, Tironi admitted to buying beer for the victim and his



Michael Tironi

friend who were planning a party during the AuSable Canoe Marathon weekend, and described the incident he was accused of as sex between consenting adults; that he and the victim had shared what he described as "intimate glances." He also admitted to opening the keg of beer at his home and drinking with the underage victim.

Also testifying in the case was Vonda Lynn (Johnson) Jones, a live-in friend of Tironi who Kalkaska County Prosecutor Brian Donnelly said told the court of occasions when she bought alcohol for underage acquaintances. Jones testified she worked at the teen center for a time doing bookkeeping.

While on the witness stand, Donnelly said Jones testified to having knowledge of a civil suit settled with a large sum of money between Tironi and the family of young boy he allegedly molested. Donnelly said Jones knew the parties had reached an agreement not to disclose anything about the settlement, including the amount. Donnelly said the settlement amounts to a case of "hush money."

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See "JURY FINDS..."

Santa is coming to town



You better watch out, boys and girls, Saint Nicholas aka Santa Claus will be traveling to Uptown Grayling on Saturday, December 8.

While he is here, he'll be collecting donations of non-perishable food items for the Crawford County Community Christian Help Center. So, while shopping in Grayling this week, be sure to drop off a non-perishable food item or two at a participating business.

Saint Nick plans to have a surprise or two for the kids on Saturday, too.

Businesses involved are looking forward to sharing the "Legend of Saint Nicholas" with everyone. Countries celebrate different legends about Saint Nick and shoppers will be able to collect the various legends from each shop.

Also on December 8, the Grayling Regional Chamber of

Commerce and the Grayling Uptown District Association are sponsoring a kids' matinee at the historic Rialto Theatre at 1 p.m. for one showing only of "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas." Admission is one can of food or other non-perishable food item to be donated to the Help Center for distribution to families in need this holiday season.

Businesses participating in the "Legend of Saint Nicholas" are AuSable Gifts, The Bicycle Shop, Boards & Beyond, Davis Jewelers, Enchanted Forest, Flower's by Josie, Grayling Restaurant, The Icehouse Quilt Shop, J. Dap & Co., Lady Slipper Gifts, Mercy Hospital Gift Shop, Northern Concepts, Parrott's Perch, Riverland Gear, Spike's Keg O'Nails, Stevens Family Circle, Rialto Theatre, and Signals and Sounds.

'THE RENTED CHRISTMAS' WARMS HEARTS



Photo by Cheryl Ruley

Hold on to your hats, Grayling High School Players... these Grayling Middle School thespians are on their way to the top after two wonderful performances of "The Rented Christmas" featuring two different casts because there was just too much talent for just one! For the complete story and more photos, see Page 2B.

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Sixty years later Pearl Harbor remembered

Submitted by Katherine E. Funck

It may have been 1941, but the Great Depression of the dismal 1930s hadn't loosened its grip on a weary world. I had come to Grayling in August, as a bride, with brighter prospects than many could claim.

Unhappy with the public electric service available at the time, Grayling had just built its own power-generating plant, housed in the building that served later as City Hall, and now, as the police forensic lab. My brand new husband, an electric contractor who had wired that building, had become the head city electrician - Superintendent of Power Line Construction and Maintenance.

With a one-man-crew, the job description that went with that imposing title included not only the building and maintenance of all the power lines, (and cutting the hundreds of trees that had to be sacrificed to accommodate poles and wires), but of checking all the street lights every Friday evening, replacing all burned out, shot out and otherwise missing bulbs every Saturday morning, reading the meters of every household once a month, and relieving the plant operator for one eight hour shift once a week!

At a time when many were still unemployed, we had very secure income, a 1939 V-8 Ford and enough carefully hoarded money in the bank to buy a lot and start building the house at Chestnut and Ottawa, which I still occupy!

In 1938 my youngest brother, having done his time in the Civilian Conservation Corps, (CCC) and despairing of any prospect of college or even trade school, had enlisted in the United States Army, and after the usual basic training at Chanute Field in Illinois, had been assigned to duty at Clark Field in Manila. This represented the fulfillment of a life-long dream, as in this teen years he had corresponded with a Phillippino pen-pal, and developed a deep interest in the Islands.

His enlistment was due to expire in 1941, but not in time for my mid-August nuptials. However he had assured us that he would be home

for hunting season, at which time he would make it his business to pass judgement on my choice of life companion, the community which I proposed to share with that life companion, and the anticipated dwelling which should be well under way by that time. (He may have been my "baby brother" with three older brothers readily available to me, but he still took his fraternal responsibilities very seriously.)

As the anticipated discharge date approached, uncertainties arose, and suddenly, to my bitter disappointment, all scheduled discharges, furloughs and leaves were cancelled, "...due," he told my mother, "to rumors that Tojo was rattling the saber". The last personal letter I had from him said, "The war-mongers are trying to keep us in the same jittery state as all the rest of the world." Obviously, by brother and his companions hadn't a suspicion in the world dire events were in the offing.

Every year, as December 7 approaches, people are asked to recall where they were, or what they were doing when they heard about Pearl Harbor. How could anyone every forget? My husband was doing his once-a-week thing at the power plant and having gone to church alone, I was in the kitchen preparing a lunch I would take to the plant and share with him. I don't know how I happened to have the radio on for those few minutes. It isn't something I would usually do when I was going to be in the house for such a short time, but for whatever reason, I did have it on, heard that world-shattering announcement, and stunned, I went to the power plant to share the news - as well as lunch-with him.

In the days that followed, we heard much about the damage to the fleet, but little mention of Clark Field. There was a rumor some of the men had escaped into the hills and were waging guerrilla warfare, but we had no real news, and no word about my brother. Sometime in late winter my mother received one somewhat cryptic letter, but after that-nothing. The Christmas package I had mailed before Thanksgiving was returned bearing among others, a Bataan post mark, so we assumed he had participated

in at least the beginning of that event.

It was a whole year before my mother received a May 7, 1943 letter from the War Department listing him as missing since May 7, 1942. A letter received later reported him missing and presumed dead, the presumptive death date, May 8, 1944.

It wasn't until months after the end of the war we ever learned the facts - Staff Sergeant Frank R. Briggs, A.S.N. 6 911 427 had survived the infamous Bataan Death March and died in a Japanese Prison Camp. The War Department letter, dated July 12, 1946 contained the information he "had been in a beleaguered status from 8 December, 1941 to 6 May, 1942, and a prisoner of war from 7 May, 1942 to 20 June, 1942." Bitter as that information was, we were grateful to learn the term of his imprisonment at Camp O'Donnell in the Philippines was two years shorter than we had previously believed.

In his high school days, and later in the Civilian Conservation Corps, he was highly regarded by his contemporaries as poet, wit and satirist. Only those who knew him well - knew his quirky sense of humor and his particular writing style -- would ever have guessed that without a single word to catch the attention of the censors, one last letter had given us a satirical description of guerrilla warfare!

Letters from the boys in camp
January 1942

Dear Mother:

Am writing a few lines just in case there is any truth to: the rumor that there may be some mail go out now and then. I wrote once about a month ago, but don't expect that you have received it yet.

Things are going along pretty smoothly here. Except that sometimes there are no napkins on the table, and there always seem to be some people around who have no respect for siesta hours. Extremely disconcerting for one as high strung and temperamental as myself. The meals are fairly good, except that every morning I order poached eggs and toast and the waiter brings me hot-cakes instead. Sheer stupidity on the part of the cook, I guess.

We are in the middle of the dry season here, and the weather is ideal

for camping out. I have been spending most of my time seeing various points of interest in the Far East, and am especially enthusiastic about studying the geological formations about four feet below the surface of the earth. All of which is very engrossing, of course, but there are times when I just can't seem to help wishing I were elsewhere.

Perhaps I'm just naturally discontented, for every now and then the urge to travel is just too strong to be resisted. At such times I generally make a speedy trip to some spot which offers opportunity for the study of those geological formation which I mentioned previously.

I hope everyone back there survived the winter as well as usual. I'll bet Rod, Jack and E.B. would like to get a crack at some of the hunting opportunities which are available here at the present time. The only trouble is that some of the best territory is closed to us at the present time.

I have been wondering if you ever received the package I mailed just before Christmas. I heard that there may have been an interruption in the Pacific mail service about that time.

I hope you understand that no news is good news, because I probably will be unable to write more than once a month and all of those might not get through. I have not received any mail since about December 7th, and don't really expect any until the maneuvers are over, and the only address I have is the return on this envelope.

Give my regards to the family (including the usual quota of nieces and nephews who arrive between letters). I'll try to be there about the time fishing season opens some year.

Your son,

Frank

P.S. Contrary to all expectations, we had a fine Christmas dinner, with only the cranberry sauce missing from the menu. As could be expected, New Years Eve was celebrated with much noise and excitement. The Christmas spirit was unusually high this year with all parties concerned doing their utmost to demonstrate how firmly they believed that it was more blessed to give than to receive.

-F.B.

Annual Madrigal Dinner Dec. 7-8

Submitted by LeAnn Millar

Hear ye, hear ye! All are invited to the Second Annual High School Choir Madrigal Dinner.

Guests will feast on field greens salad, roast beef, herbed potatoes, mixed beans, bread, wassail, and plum pudding for dessert.

As well as the feast, a show of folly and wit will commence. A life-sized puppet show will round out the evening.

The choir is earnestly working on this year's production which, by all appearances, should prove to delight and entertain. You will be guests of the king and queen, with their lords and ladies, the court jester and his bag of tricks, knights,

heralds, traveling minstrels and, of course, the court wizard. The life-size Punch and Judy Show is sure to delight even the oldest of souls.

The Madrigal Dinner will be held this Friday, December 7 and Saturday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m.

at the AuSable Primary School Cafeteria. For tickets and seating information, travel to Riverland Gear in Grayling.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8.50 for children under the age of 12 years.



Last year's Grayling High School Choir Madrigal Dinner, complete with a queen (center - Ann Nettleton) and her ladies in waiting (left - Laura Strohkirsch; right - Heidi Niederer), entertained a full house each evening. This is the second year for the dinner and the singers are hoping for the same support from the community. The event raises funds for choir activities, such as a trip to Toronto.

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Jury finds Tironi guilty

Continued from Page 1A

Because of her sworn statements about buying alcohol for minors, Donnelly issued a warrant and Jones was arrested in the courthouse on November 29. She was arraigned in 87th District Court on three counts of selling or furnishing alcohol to minors. Each count carries a \$1,000 fine if she is found guilty. A pre-trial conference is scheduled for December 18. Jones is currently free on bond.

According to the Prosecutor, witnesses came forward to testify the victim had "sobbed uncontrollably, was visibly shaken by the assault and hasn't been the same kid since." Donnelly described the incident

as a "brutal rape" and Tironi as a "pedophile... a wolf in sheep's clothing" who used his relationship with Jones and the teen center as a cover. He said while neither Tironi or Jones would admit to any "intimate" relationship, she had on many occasions described herself to others as Tironi's girlfriend. Donnelly said Tironi and Jones put on the act of a couple with whom parents might trust their kids.

Donnelly believes this incident was not an isolated case and there are others, inside and out of the Grayling community, who may have fallen victim to Tironi in the past, including some young people who frequented the now closed

Entertainment and Beyond -- the teen center Tironi operated. He would like any other victims to contact him between now and Tironi's sentencing. "Anyone with information regarding Mr. Tironi providing alcohol to minors or his sexual misbehavior is urged to call me. If I can bring more information to the judge prior to sentencing, a tougher sentence may be granted," Donnelly explained.

Tironi is expected to be sentenced within 30 days and will remain in the Kalkaska County Jail until then.

The Prosecutor said he would respect any request for confidentiality in this case and those offering information would not have to go



Vonda Lynn Jones

through the "rigors of a trial" to help the case. Donnelly can be reached at (231) 258-3325.

State budget cuts hit social services

by Matt Buys

Capital News Service

LANSING -- State budget cuts have handcuffed social service programs that are in increasing demand from struggling citizens, community activists say.

Gov. John Engler recently issued an executive order imposing \$540 million in cuts to balance the budget, with nearly 27 percent of it coming from social service programs.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says the state's unemployment rate rose from 3.7 percent last October to 5.3 percent in October of this year. According to Michigan's Family Independence Agency (FIA), the welfare caseload has increased from last year's total of 71,962 to 73,333.

Cindy Pushman, Director of the Crawford County FIA, has seen the same unemployment rise among the people her agency helps.

"We have seen an increase in people coming in needing unemployment aid," Pushman said. "There have been more people in need of subsidies as well."

Sen. Leon Stille (R-Spring Lake)

agrees the economy is in poor shape. "There will be more folks laid off and turning to welfare as a safety valve," he said.

However, the number of families participating in the agency's Work First program, which requires recipients to work while getting assistance, dropped from 31,000 in September to 28,000 in October, according to the FIA.

With more people in need of assistance, Engler and other state officials are saying their hands are tied because there simply is not enough money to go around.

Even so, that's no solace to social service groups.

"Everyone is worried right now. I wouldn't want to be in the governor's shoes; the need is increasing and revenues are decreasing. What do you do when there's nothing left to give?" said Rick Loewenstein, President of Gleaners Community Food Bank.

Pushman said her agency has already felt the money taken from its \$32,000 budget. "We had a Workers on Wheels program that will be terminated unless Goodwill awards us grants. Without state

funding, we can't afford to purchase cars for workers who don't have cars but have to commute."

Another area hit hard is services for the aging. The executive order called for a 10 percent cut in funding that trimmed \$14.9 million in Medicaid reimbursements to nursing home residents for health care.

Veterans' services have also been pinched by the budget fix. The American Legion, AMVETS and Veterans of Foreign Wars received cuts of about 15 percent, and funding to the Polish Legion and Marine Corps League was eliminated.

Patrick Lafferty, Chief Executive Officer of the American Legion of Michigan, does not foresee a happy ending. "We're honoring veterans, but slashing our budgets? There's no way we can absorb the thousands of cases that are out there," he said. Lawmakers have responded by trying to make changes in the welfare system to save budget money.

For example, a bill recently passed in the Senate would make the eligibility requirements of welfare even stricter. The bill would require recipients of social assistance to be available to work 40 hours a week in

the Work First program, rather than the current 30-hour requirement.

Republican supporters say the bill would close loopholes that will allow the state to weed out people abusing the system.

"The people who have failed to be self-sufficient and improve themselves are the one's affected by this," Pushman said.

But opponents say the measures are untimely and counter-productive because welfare recipients may be forced to leave higher paying jobs for ones that will give them 40 hours per week, which may be difficult in a slowing job market.

Sen. Alma Smith (D-Salem Township), a member of the largely Democratic opposition, said, "These changes come at a bad time for the state, when the economy is bad and welfare caseloads will begin to increase."

The state had planned to adopt new technology to reduce welfare fraud by using fingerprint pictures to discourage multiple filings by applicants. But, budget cuts have scrapped the program Stille sponsored and would have saved an estimated \$30 million annually.

Lawmakers debate tough penalties for young drinkers

by Anne Edison-Swift

Capital News Service

LANSING -- Underage drinkers repeatedly arrested for alcohol possession may face jail under a bill that passed in the House and faces debate in the Senate.

The proposal by Rep. Mike Kowall (R-White Lake) would increase the punishment for a Minor in Possession (MIP) violation. Currently the fine is \$100 for a first offense, \$200 for a second offense and \$500 for any further violations. A judge may also order substance abuse treatment or community service.

The bill would allow a judge to impose a jail sentence of up to 90 days for repeat offenders, while first-timers could be jailed if they fail to complete mandated commu-

nity service or treatment.

Law enforcement officials around the state have voiced some concerns and some praise after reviewing the proposed bill. One Michigan sheriff said he hopes the jail option won't lead to more overcrowding, but a Holland police sergeant said he likes the bill because it would give judges more options and more tools to break the cycle that leads young people into alcoholism.

Rep. Kowall said current penalties aren't tough enough to discourage repeat offenders. "The police and judges tell me they're sick of seeing the same kids get into trouble again and again. And they're sick and tired of pulling dead kids out of cars."

Echoing similar sentiments, Rep. Paul DeWeese (R-Williamston) told

a group of 100 Michigan State University students recently why his work as an emergency room physician convinced him to vote for the bill: "Every night I see too much carnage, pain and death -- all accidents caused by alcohol."

While many proponents cite examples that include drunk driving accidents, Professor David Moran of Wayne State University Law School said it's important to remember the difference between MIP and drunk driving charges.

"An MIP is an inherently victimless crime -- no one gets hurt. This

Grayling Township recycling center now accepting styrofoam

by Cheryl Ruley

Staff Writer

Taking a proactive stance on keeping as many recyclable items out of the local landfill as possible, the Grayling Township Transfer Station is now accepting styrofoam for recycling.

Crawford County Environmental Monitor Pat Merrill said styrofoam must be clean and free of food before it is turned over for recycling. The transfer station, located on North Down River Road in Grayling, is the only site accepting styrofoam for recycling at this time.

A recycling container originally used for the collection of cardboard is now available at the station for the styrofoam. Once a required

amount is collected, the styrofoam will be sent to Dart Container in Mason where it will be ground up to make new styrofoam products.

If you are not a resident of Grayling Township, but would like more information on acquiring a recycling permit to participate in the recycling program, call Grayling Township at 348-4361.

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• Sat. & Sun. 2:00 & 4:25pm

Black Knight - PG-13 (95)
Starring - Martin Lawrence
• 7:15pm Nightly
• Sat. & Sun. 2:15pm

Shallow Hal - PG-13 (113)
Starring - Gwyneth Paltrow & Jack Black
• 9:15pm Nightly
• Sat. & Sun. 4:15pm

Monsters Inc. - G (95)
Voices of John Goodman & Billy Crystal
• 7:00 & 9:00pm Nightly
• Sat. & Sun. 2:00 & 4:00pm

Harry Potter & The Sorcerer's Stone - PG (150)
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• Sun., 2:30 & 7:00pm, Mon.-Thur., 7pm

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OPINIONS



ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

For whatever it means, Blanchard still ahead

NOT MUCH appears to be changing in public perception of the 2002 campaign for governor of Michigan.

In the most recent published poll of primary possibilities taken in mid-November, former Gov. James Blanchard still leads in the minds of probable Democratic voters.

Blanchard figures are about the same as earlier polls, showing favor among 40 percent of those polled. Last spring, Mr. Blanchard received 41 percent support.

Atty. Gen. Jennifer Granholm is at 29 percent, compared with 35 percent last spring -- some slippage, but not significant.

U.S. Rep. David Bonior is still third at 16 percent, double his eight percent last spring.

The other two potential candidates, State Sens. Alma Wheeler Smith and Gary Peters, stayed at one or two percent. Undecideds were about the same, 13 percent in November, 12 percent in April.

ALL FIVE CANDIDATES have been

out campaigning hard, but none of this means very much in the polls, except that Mr. Blanchard still has greater name recognition than the others. Two terms as governor will do that for you.

The latest figures probably indicate that Mr. Bonior's formal endorsement by the UAW and state AFL-CIO may have kicked in.

Apparently the poll means something to Sen. Peters, however. Within a week after the new figures were published, he withdrew from the governor's race, and said he'd like to be on the ticket for attorney general instead.

Which also means, apparently, Mr. Peters thinks either Ms. Granholm will win the primary, or she will be nominated for lieutenant governor, so the attorney general job will be open.

Otherwise, who knows what a poll in November portends? With everything else that's going on in our world, not many folks -- except rabid partisans and political

junkies -- are even thinking about next year's state election.

THE REPUBLICAN SIDE of the poll may have hidden meaning.

With Gov. John Engler unavailable for a fourth term because of term limits, three potential candidates are listed: Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus, State Sen. John Schwartz, and Ed Hamilton, a self starter businessman from Oakland County.

Mr. Posthumus is the clear favorite of Gov. Engler, the Engler machine, state party leadership and most district GOP leaders. Mr. Posthumus has been making so many official state pronouncements, cutting so many ribbons, representing the state in so many formal ways that an outside visitor might think he's already governor.

His poll standing among 300 likely Republican voters is 46 percent, less than half but well ahead of Sen. Schwartz at eight percent and Mr. Hamilton at three percent.

The poll also shows 43 percent of likely Republican voters are undecided about their party choice for governor. That's almost as high as the 46 percent who support Mr. Posthumus.

WHY ARE 43 PERCENT of likely Republican voters undecided, even at this early date, despite the party juggernaut lined up in the lieutenant governor's corner? It's a point to ponder.

The undecideds could hint at some interesting possibilities:

(a) Maybe the GOP party structure does not reflect the wishes of most of their supposed followers.

(b) Or maybe about half the probable Republican voters still don't know who Dick Posthumus is;

(c) Or maybe they know him but aren't sure they want him as governor;

(d) Or maybe there's a hidden GOP army hiding in the bushes, ready to be convinced by Joe Schwartz or Ed Hamilton.

Any or all of these possibilities could spell trouble for the lieutenant governor's candidacy and continuing Republican dominance of state government.

(e) Or maybe it's so early Michigan Republicans just don't care yet about next year's campaign.

Most likely, everything will turn out as scheduled by GOP powers, and Dick Posthumus will be crowned as the party's choice in next August's primary.

As noticed above, who knows what any November poll really means, with all that's going on around us.

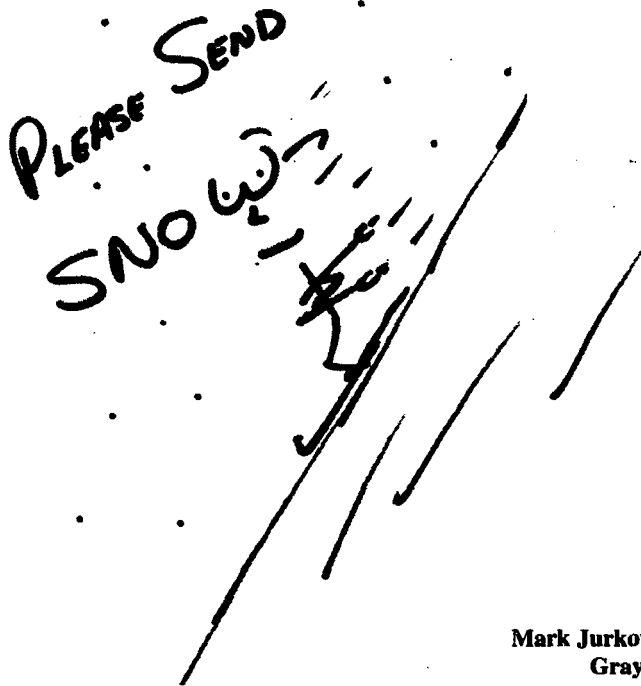
Nobody's paying attention to next year's election anyway except those personally involved in it and maybe a few political junkies, like newspaper columnists.

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

EDITOR

The sentiments of many...

To the editor,



Mark Jurkovich
Grayling

Does profit outweigh danger?

To the editor,

Some years ago, the National Guard was allowed to fence off a large area of the artillery range. This was a section larger than Otsego Lake, which is more than five miles long. The range was said to be dangerous to hunters because of the presence of "unexploded" shells.

In the years since, the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) has diligently ticketed and fined

deer hunters found within that fenced area.

This hunting season, we were surprised and shocked to discover extensive lumbering operations going on in that same fenced-in area. Apparently, the profit motive outweighs the danger of "unexploded" shells!

Joseph C. Greenwood
Deer hunter for 40 years
Frederic

WASHINGTON NOTES

By Carl Levin, U.S. Senator (D) Michigan

Making our borders more secure

When a group of illegal aliens trying to sneak into the United States through a freight train tunnel that runs beneath the Detroit River found themselves caught in the beam of a U.S. Border Patrol officer's flashlight, they didn't turn and run back to Canada. Instead they calmly walked to the tunnel exit to surrender to the border agents once they were on U.S. soil.

The group knew that once they got into this country there was a good chance they would not be detained or deported. Sure enough, they were right. They were processed, released on their own recognizance within a few hours, and told to show up at a removal hearing. However if past practice is any indication, the odds are against anyone apprehended actually showing up for such a hearing. The bottom line in this case was that a group of people who sought to enter our country illegally achieved their goal even though they were in the hands of the Border Patrol.

That's the story told by senior Border Patrol agents testifying recently before the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which I chair. While the problems raised by the Border Patrol agents would be serious in normal circumstances, they carry particular weight since the attacks of September 11th.

The U.S. Border Patrol is the uniformed law enforcement arm of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) with the responsibility of combating alien smuggling and illegal entries other than at ports of entry.

Ports of entry such as airports, bridges and highways are the only places where people may legally enter the United States. They are also the places where INS officers and Customs Agents review persons, papers and luggage to decide whether to allow someone into the United States.

The Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations looked at how people who attempt to enter the country illegally at places other than these official ports are arrested and processed by the Border Patrol. When persons are arrested by the Border Patrol, the large majority voluntarily returns to their country of origin, usually Mexico or Canada.

The others, perhaps as many as one-third of those arrested on the Northern Border, are given a notice to appear at a removal hearing. The Border Patrol decides whether the person should be detained, released on bond or, as is often the case, released on his or her own recognizance while awaiting a hearing.

These can take several months to occur.

The INS isn't able to tell us how many of the persons arrested in this situation and released fail to show up for their scheduled hearing. However, by looking at related statistics and ballpark estimates, we estimate that the number is at least 40% and possibly as high as 90%. Look at the Detroit Border Patrol Sector which encompasses all of Michigan. In FY 2001, the Border Patrol arrested more than 2100 people, a significant percentage of whom were arrested while actually attempting to enter the U.S. illegally.

Most of these 2100 were voluntarily returned to their country of origin. However, more than one-third were given a notice to appear at a removal hearing. Reports from Border Patrol agents indicate that the vast majority of the latter group were released on their own recognizance pending their hearing.

We don't know how many of those who were released actually showed up for their hearings, but according to INS, 40% of all persons awaiting a hearing who have not been detained - not just those arrested by the Border Patrol - didn't show up. One former INS district director told my subcommittee he thought about 90% of persons arrested and released by the Border Patrol didn't show up for a hearing.

The conclusion is inescapable: the vast majority of people arrested by the Border Patrol while attempting to enter the U.S. illegally who don't voluntarily return to their own country are released on their own recognizance. Many if not most of those released don't show up for their removal hearing. Ultimately, little or no effort is made to find them.

This is a dysfunctional and absurd system that makes a mockery of our immigration laws. When we release persons into the country who are without an address, without ties, without any record of who they are, we're abdicating our responsibility to the larger community. This is a practice that has to stop.

I've asked the INS and Border Patrol to report to me on the steps they plan to take to close these enforcement loopholes. If the response is unsatisfactory, I plan to introduce legislation to accomplish it.

We are an open and generous country and we welcome persons from around the world who want to contribute their hard work to help build a better America. But we also have a duty to protect ourselves and our country from people who would do us harm.

EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Our office will close at noon on Monday, Christmas Eve, December 24th. Deadlines for the December 27th Avalanche will be:

Display Ads ♦♦ Wed. Dec. 19 5 pm
Community News ♦♦ Thurs. Dec. 20 5 pm
Classified Display Ads ♦♦ Thurs. Dec. 20 5 pm
Classified Ads by the word ♦♦ Fri. Dec. 21 by noon

The Avalanche office will reopen on Wednesday, December 26th at 9 am.

Our office will close at noon on Monday, New Year's Eve, December 31st. Deadlines for the January 3, 2002 Avalanche will be:

Display Ads ♦♦ Wed. Dec. 26
Community News ♦♦ Thurs. Dec. 27
Classified Display Ads ♦♦ Thurs. Dec. 27
Classified Ads by the word ♦♦ Fri. Dec. 28 by noon

The Avalanche office will reopen on Wednesday, January 2nd at 9 am.

Letters to the Editor

PRESS



The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Avalanche*.

Your views are welcome on the Opinion Page. Letters may be typed or handwritten, but please double-space or use every other line and limit to 500 words.

Every letter must be signed and an address and telephone number

must be included to be considered for publication. Letters will not be published without the author's name.

Telephone numbers are not published.

All letters are subject to editing and will be printed as space allows.

Deadline for submission of letters to the editor is Friday at noon for consideration for publication in the following week's paper.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

AVALANCHE

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Check us out on the Internet at www.townnews.com/avalanche/

The Bible Speaks

When the Towers Fall

The Bible foretold in Isaiah 30:25 of "the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall." The context of this verse was literally interpreted as applying to part of God's judgment in the last days while restoring God's blessings upon the nation of Israel. I do not believe the towers that destroyed the towers of our world trade center is the intended fulfillment of this verse. But it is a shocking picture of the kind of destruction the world will face in the last days. There are some startling similarities between our present war and the war described in Isaiah 30. God is still sovereign and rules in the affairs of nations. Israel's existence is still at the center of international conflicts. "In God We Trust" is still the key to America's future success or failure in world affairs.

The Bible clearly describes the day the world will unite to fight against God and Israel. It is called the battle of Armageddon. Will America continue to defend God and Israel, or will we ultimately sacrifice our God and Israel for temporary world peace? Books have already been written describing all religious fundamentalism as the major cause of world conflicts. Will we become willing to sacrifice our God and the Bible in order to gain international support to control the terrorism of Islamic fundamentalists and the Koran? Will we eventually accept an ecumenical world faith movement that incorporates the "good" in all religions thereby establishing a one-world-religion that will bring in the false prophet and antichrist? Our liberty and freedoms are a direct gift of our God. Will we push for "enduring freedom" and liberty for all nations, or will we become weary in well

doing?

The Taliban is accusing America of genocide for our attack on their front line soldiers in Afghanistan. So now both Israel and America have been publicly accused of attempted genocide by the Moslems. But, according to Moslem beliefs, abortion is a form of genocide, so they may feel that the death of several thousand people in the twin towers was insignificant in light of the 40 million babies already killed in America by abortion. They may not see any difference between the millions of babies sacrificed to the idol Molech in the land of Canaan, and the millions of babies sacrificed in American abortion clinics. They may not see any difference between the sexual perversion of Canaan and the fornication, adultery, and sodomy practiced in America. And the holocaust of 6 million Jews in Germany during WWII is probably considered mild to Muslims in light of the holocaust of 40 million babies in abortion clinics. In fact, the Germans are reported to have turned to gassing and burning the Jews because German soldiers could not endure the pressure of shooting millions of Jewish women and children. After all, wouldn't it even appear more humane to inject poison gas into the lungs of unborn infants to kill them, rather than burning them alive within the womb with a saline solution to induce abortion?

Have we repeated the false hope of Israel as stated in Micah 3:11? "The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money; yet will they lean upon the LORD, and say, Is not the LORD among us?

none evil can come upon us." Do we as a nation owe our God an apology? Do we have anything to repent of?

Is our God offended when sodomy is defended as a civil right in America? Is our God offended because millions of unborn babies have been killed in the name of civil rights? Is our God offended when His name, His Word and prayer to Him are being attacked and removed from public display? When Jerry Falwell mentioned these things publicly as a cause for repentance, he was denounced and ridiculed. Yet, when former president Clinton blamed the attacks on our nation on our own past social injustice the media did not renounce his views. We are facing a fight for the heart and soul of America. We desperately need a spiritual revival!

God, home, and country are worth fighting for and dying for. What is worth dying for is worth living for. Repentance and faith toward God, loyalty to our families, and courage to defend the nation we love is necessary for our eventual victory. Pastor "B"

Please pray for God's blessings upon the ministry of this column and our church Website at <http://www.i2k.net/~cba>. We at Calvary Baptist Church invite you to learn more from the Bible about Jesus Christ. Join us in a verse by verse study of the gospel of John each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.

The Bible Speaks is a paid advertisement and does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Crawford County Avalanche.

U.S. Capitol Holiday Tree from Michigan to be lit Dec. 11

A 74-foot white spruce from the Ottawa National Forest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula has arrived in Washington, D.C. and will serve as the 2001 Capitol Holiday Tree. Named the "Tree of Hope," the tree will be displayed on the west lawn of the U.S. Capitol until early January.

Live online video of the Tree of Hope can be seen on Sen. Carl Levin's website at: <http://levin.senate.gov/holidaytree.htm>. Visitors to the site will be able to watch the progress of the tree anytime, day or night, and can log on to watch the tree lighting ceremony at 5 p.m. on

Tuesday, December 11.

The people of Michigan have sent 6,000 handmade ornaments to help decorate the tree, reflecting regional and state history, natural features and cultural aspects of Michigan. In addition, 10,000 electric lights and several dozen giant globe-shaped ornaments bring the total number of decorations on the tree to more than 15,000.

After the holiday season, the Tree of Hope will continue to spread hope and life. Next year, lumber milled from the holiday tree will be used to build a Habitat for Humanity home in Michigan. Seeds from its cones

will be planted in urban parks as part of Arbor Day 2002.

This is the fifth time Michigan has provided the Capitol's holiday tree, also known as the People's Tree, second only in frequency to Pennsylvania.

Card of Thanks

The homeless dogs and cats, puppies and kittens of Crawford County would like to thank the following people for their volunteer work for the Animal Shelter of Crawford County's Christmas Walk project:

Bob and Barb Clark, Dennis and Mickie Meyers, Laura Purtil, Tari Weber, Bonnie Erskine, Jean Stokes, Roger and Patty Redinger, Joe Greenwood, Carol Rebel, Brenda Wargo, Jane Kozloski, Tabitha Pelkey, Cheryl Postma, Mika Sumner, Deanne Whiteside, Karyn Ruley, Mark Ruley, Dave and Beth Miller, Alice Ray, Sue Maples, and Cassie Maples. (We apologize if we missed someone!)

Very special thanks to Linda Golnick for her heartfelt support. It means more than we can express.

We would also like to thank everyone who stopped in to say hello and pick up a few goodies.

MILITARY NEWS

Air Force Airman Sean M. Pooley has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training,

the airman studied the Air force mission, organization, and customs; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Pooley is the son of Thad and Susan Pooley of Grayling. He is a 2001 graduate of Grayling High School.

FREE FREE
BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES
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Rt. 4 Box 4103-C, Grayling, MI 49738
Call (517) 348-8356 or 348-9220

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"I, Laurie, take you
Joey to be my
husband..."

A bride...a
groom... vows and
rings carefully
chosen; yet, we are
all too painfully
aware of the odds in
today's fast-paced society.
What can place this new
family on a firm
foundation? What will
keep their relationship
what it is on this day, and
still let it grow and
flourish as the frustrations
of daily living seek to take
their toll?

Included in this
ceremony is a line
from the
book of
Ecclesiastes 4:12 which
says..."A cord of three
strands is not easily
broken." In this case, two
of the "strands" are the
couple, but that all-important third "strand" is God. The power of God
will strengthen the success of their relationship if it remains an important
part of their marriage throughout their lives together.

Whether or not you are married, God can be the strengthening strand
in your life. Won't you worship this week in God's House?

A Cord of Three Strands...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Matthew 24:29-44	Matthew 25:1-13	Matthew 25:31-46	Micah 5:2-6	Zechariah 9:9-17	Psalms 24	Psalms 130

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society

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Christian Science Society

209 First St. - Suite 103 - Gaylord
(989) 732-7001

Sunday Service 10:30 am
April through October

2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 pm
Sunday School 10:30 am

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeffrey Jaggers
400 Michigan Ave. • 348-2974
Barrier Free

Sunday Worship ... 8:30 & 11 am
Sunday School -
Sept. - May

Adult Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Children's Sunday School ... 11 am
Junior Church 11:30am
(Childcare Available during 11:00
service)

Bible Study (Wed) 10:30am

Seventh Day Adventist

Pastor Jeff Arthur
Phone 989-275-1061
Services held Saturday at
Camp AuSable off M-72 East

(1st building on right inside camp entrance)

Church Service
Saturday 9:30 am
Sabbath School
Saturday 10:30 am
Prayer Meeting
Tuesday 7 pm

Emma Lowery United Church Of Christ

3474 West Park Road, Luzerne
Sunday Worship 11 am
Adult and Youth
Sunday School 9:30 am

Bear Lake Christian

M-72 & East Bear Lake Rd.
Sunday School 9 am
Sunday Service 10 am

Heritage Baptist

Pastor Ernie Wagner 348-1411
1841 Hartwick Pines Rd.

1/4 mile west of I-75
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 11 am
Evening Worship 6 pm
Wednesday 7 pm

Burning Bush Tabernacle

Pastor Patricia Petrie, 348-1278
501 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling

Sunday School 10 am
Sunday Service &
Children's Church 11 am
Sunday Evening Service ... 6 pm
Monday Prayer Meeting ... 7 pm
Wednesday Bible Study ... 7 pm
Significant Singles
Wednesday 6 pm

Grayling Assembly of God

Rev. Ron Voelker, Pastor
701 S. I-75 Business Loop
Church 348-8885
Parsonage 348-2588
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Evening Service 6 pm
Wednesday - Family Night
Adult-Youth-Children 7 pm

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

President George D. Rasin
600 North Elm Street, Gaylord
Sacrament 10 am
Sunday School 11 am
Primary 11 am
Priesthood 12 noon
Relief Society 12 noon

St. John Lutheran (ELCA)

Pastor Wayne Knockel
710 Spruce Street
348-5224
Sunday School 9:15 am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Nursery is available

Community of Christ

Pastor Carol Stephan
North Down River Rd. at
1030 Glenn Rd. • P.O. Box 1188
Church School 9:45 am
Preaching 11 am
Midweek Service Prayer ... 7 pm

Gaylord Christian Reformed

Rev. V. Schaap
415 Ohio North, Gaylord
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 11 am
Evening Service 6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study ... 7:30 pm

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Community

Robert W. Nailey, J.V., Pastor
700-708 Peninsular • 348-7657
Sabbath Eucharist
Saturday Vigil Mass 6 pm
Sunday Masses 8:00 am
Family Mass 10:00 am
Scripture Study
(Sundays) 9:15 am
Daily Masses
Wednesday & Fridays ... 8:30 am

First Baptist Church of Frederic

Pastor Dale Hammond
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 11 am
Evening Worship 6 pm
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study ... 7 pm

Resurrection Life Church

Pastor Jimmie McWatters
Grayling Days Inn Conference Room
Sunday Service 10:30 am
Phone: 231-536-7933, Fax: 231-536-3046
Wednesday 7 pm
(call or e-mail for directions)
Website: www.rlcnow.com
E-mail: pastorjim@rlcnow.com

Calvary Baptist Church

Dr. Robert Barnett, Pastor
M-72 West
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Evening Worship 6 pm
Mid-Week Services
Wednesday 7 pm
Prayer &
Awana Club (Wed.) 7 pm

Church of Christ

Gordon French, Pastor
Old US-27 at Skyline Rd.
275-8613
In Search of the Lord's Way
Sunday Mornings on
TV 29 & 8 9 am
Sunday Classes 10 am
Sunday Worship 11 am
Sunday Evening 6 pm
Wednesday
Mid-Week Bible Study 7 pm

The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message

Pastor Paul Rolfe
7662 Kelly Ave., Frederic
Sunday
Worship 10 am & 7 pm
Wed. Prayer Service 7 pm

Abundant Life Tabernacle

Pastor Lyle Studer
211 Shellenbarger St.
348-5325
Sunday School 10 am
Sunday
Worship 11 am & 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening 7 pm

Lovells Chapel

Pastor Rev. D. Dean Coursey
Sunday School 10 am
Chapel Service 11 am
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting 7-8 pm

Grayling Baptist Church

Affiliated with S.B.C.
Pastor Terry Colby
705 Madsen St. • Grayling
348-2557

Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 11 am
Evening Service 6 pm
Wednesday Service 7 pm

Harvest Time Church of God

Pastor Fred Coates
506 North Birch St., Kalkaska
(616) 258-3448
Sunday School 10 am
Worship Service ... 11 am & 6 pm
Family Training Hour and Prayer
Wednesday 7 pm

Free Methodist

Joseph Carpenter - Pastor
Daniel Baldermann-Associate Pastor
6652 (M-72 W.) • 348-9093
or 348-5362

Early Service 8:30 am
Sunday School 10 am
Morning Service 11 am
Prayer Meeting (Wednesday) 7 pm

Mt. Hope Evangelical Lutheran--Missouri Synod

Vacancy Pastor - Rev. William Winter
905 N. I-75 Bus. Lp.
348-5921 • 366-5164

Tues. Family Night ... 5-7:00 p.m.
(Dinner Provided)

Wed. Morning Bible Study ... 9:30 am
Education Hour 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:30 am

Unity Center

Terry Dickinson, Minister
Otsego Twp. Hall, Waters
(989) 348-1584
Sunday Services 10:30 am
Sunday School 10:30 am

St. Francis Episcopal

Rev. Robert Henley
M-72 West
Office 348-5850

Sunday Holy
Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30 am
Morning Praise 10:30 am
(the second Sunday of each month)

Adult & Children's
Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday nursery
provided 10:30 am
by Licensed Daycare Professional
Adult Choir Practice
(Wednesday) 6:45 pm

St. Martins Ev. Lutheran (Wels)

Herbert R. Filter - Pastor
For information call 275-5443
Services held at the
Roscommon Community Center,
Sunday mornings at 9 am,
510 South St., Roscommon, MI.

Luzerne Baptist

Pastor James Durfee
2247 Durfee Lane
Sunday School 10 am
Sunday Morning Worship ... 11 am
Sunday Evening Worship ... 6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study ... 7 pm

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OBITUARIES

Caroline J. Madill

Feb. 19, 1926 - Nov. 27, 2001

Age 75, died Tuesday evening at the Appleton Medical Center, in Appleton, Wisconsin, following a massive stroke on Friday night.

Caroline was born on February 19, 1926 in West Branch, daughter of the late Charles and Ida Post. She grew up in West Branch and Frederic, and was a 1944 graduate of Grayling High School.

On August 13, 1949, she married Frank Madill at St. Mary Church in Grayling; he survives. Caroline enjoyed being with her family both in Wisconsin and Michigan, and was very active with sewing and gardening around her house.

She and her family traveled extensively around the country, especially in Michigan and Georgia where they had previously resided. Caroline was a faithful member of Holy Name Church in Kimberly, Wisconsin and of the Post #60 American Legion Auxiliary.

Survivors include her husband: Frank Madill of Kimberly; three children: Nelda Keenan and her special friend John Hargo of Kimberly, WI; Nadine (Hank) De Wild of Kimberly, WI; and Michael (Barbara Bezzi) Madill of Appleton, WI.

She was especially fond of her four grandchildren: Carrie Keenan of Appleton, WI and Monica, Meggie, and Hank De Wild of Kimberly, WI; five brothers: George (Irene) Post of Trufant; Leo Post of Grayling; Morden (Gloria) Post of Grayling; Jack (Marilyn) Post of Flushing; Bill (Nancy) Post of Hart; a brother-in-law: John (Barbara) Madill of Davison; a sister-in-law: Mary Ellen (Orville) Hilliker of Troy.

Caroline was preceded in death by her parents, a brother Milford (Betty) Post, and sisters-in-law Eileen Parsons and Helma Post.

A memorial funeral liturgy for Caroline was held on Saturday, December 1 at Holy Name Catholic Church, in Kimberly, WI with Rev. Dennis Bergsbaken officiating. Inurnment will be in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

Arrangements by Jansen Fargo Funeral Home, 204 E. Kimberly Avenue, Kimberly, WI 54136

Nelson C. Savoix

Oct. 7, 1920 - Nov. 30, 2001

Mr. Nelson C. Savoix, age 81 of Roscommon, died on Friday, November 30, at Tendercare in Gaylord.

Mr. Savoix was born in Houghton on October 7, 1920. He was a life member of the Roscommon VFW, a life member of the Higgins Lake DAV and a life member of the American Legion Post #366 in Flint. He was also a member of the Houghton Lake Moose Lodge, the IBEW #948 in Flint and St. Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Roscommon.

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Pauline "Polly," three daughters: Connie Eshman of Ohio, Linda (Robert) Egges of California, and Kay (Mark) Pfeiffer of Davison. He leaves behind six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and two sisters: Barbara (Gordon) McClelland and Delores Sherwood, both of Florida. He also leaves behind several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were held Tuesday, December 4 at Crestwood Cemetery Chapel in Grand Blanc.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial contributions be made to St. Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church, c/o Richard Maki, 412 Hannah, Roscommon, MI 48653.

Arrangements by Nelson Funeral Home, Gaylord.



Blair A. Murphy

Dec. 30, 1953 - Dec. 1, 2001

Blair Allen Murphy, D.O. passed away December 1. He leaves behind his beloved wife, Tina of 27 years and five children, Meghan, Maureen, Melissa, Molly, and Blair II.

Dr. Murphy was born on December 30, 1953 in Flint, to Dr. Gerald Murphy and Mildred Whalen Murphy. Blair grew up in Flint with siblings Bernie, Brent, Brad, and Bonnie. He graduated from Assumption College Prep School in Windsor, Ontario in 1972. He attended Northeast Missouri State University in Kirksville, Missouri. In 1984 he graduated from University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, with the degree Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his Urological residency at Oakland General Hospital, Madison Heights, in 1990.

In 1990, Dr. Murphy and his family moved to Gaylord, where he began his Urological practice at Mercy Hospital in Grayling. Dr. Murphy was devoted to his patients, many of whom he considered to be good friends. To his patients and friends Blair was simply known as "Murph" or "Doc."

Dr. Murphy, along with his friend, William F. Rolinski developed an idea that led to the establishment of the first microbrewery in northern Michigan. Blair's love of hunting and the outdoors inspired the name, "Big Buck Brewery and Steakhouse."

Dr. Murphy's love of the outdoors led him to many exotic places, such as Alaska, New Zealand, Australia and Tanzania. He recently returned from South Africa with his friend Dr. Jeffrey Chaulk and had the "hunt of a lifetime." He received many awards from Safari Club International for his record setting trophies. At the time of his death he was pursuing his dream to complete "The Big Five" trophy collection of animals.

Blair loved spending time with his family at Higgins Lake. He loved teaching his son Blair how to fish, and loved sailing with his brother Brad. One of his favorite pastimes was to just sit and watch the sunset. He ended this past summer with a spectacular sunset sail with his family.

On May 25, 1974, at Saint Alphonsus Church in Dearborn, Blair married Tina Giuliano. His love of Italian food endeared him to his in-laws, Salvatore and Assunta Giuliano, who considered him their Irish son. In 1979, they began their family with the birth of their daughter, Meghan. Meghan was followed by Maureen in 1981, Melissa in 1983, Molly in 1987, and in 1992 Blair finally had a son who he

named after himself. He loved and was devoted to his family.

Besides his wife and children, he is survived by his loving mother, Mildred Whalen Murphy, siblings: Bernie Murphy, Dr. Brent (Michelle) Murphy, Dr. Bradford (Linda) Murphy, and Dr. Bonnie Murphy. Also surviving are mother and father-in-law, Salvatore and Assunta Giuliano and sisters-in-law Pauline (Paul) Wolski and Elizabeth (Mitchell) Rosekrans and many loving nieces and nephews, Shauna, Tracy, Brian, Donovan, Kathleen, Devin, Ryan, Robert, Stephanie, Trevor and Laura.

He was preceded in death by his father, Dr. Gerald Murphy. Blair also leaves behind a legacy of many loving and lifelong friends.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, December 5, at 12 noon at St. Mary Cathedral Church in Gaylord, with Reverend John McCracken officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Blair A. Murphy, D.O. Memorial Fund in care of Nelson Funeral Home, Gaylord.

Arrangements by Nelson Funeral Home, Gaylord.

Terrance Forma

Feb. 27, 1951 - Nov. 28, 2001

Terrance Forma, age 50, of Beaver Creek, died on Wednesday, November 28. A private family service was held.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

Robert W. Derry

Jan. 27, 1942 - Nov. 30, 2001

Robert Willis Derry, 59, of Grayling, died Friday, November 30. Private services were held.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

Lucy M. Reno

March 8, 1935 - Nov. 27, 2001

Lucy Marie Reno, age 66, of Grayling, died Tuesday, November 27. Funeral services were held, Saturday, December 1, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, in Gaylord.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

(Note: For more Obituaries, see Page 8A.)

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OBITUARIES

Pamela M. Swiercz
Dec. 17, 1959 - Nov. 26, 2001
Pamela M. Swiercz, age 41, passed away Monday, November 26 in Bay Medical Center after a long, courageous battle with neurofibromatosis.

She was born to Raymond and Geraldine (Bladecki) Swiercz on December 17, 1959 in Bay City, where she resided all her life. Pam was a 1978 graduate of Bay City Central High School.

She was currently employed by Bay Shores Nursing Care Center as a certified nursing assistant, as well as previously at Sheffield Bay. Pam was also formerly employed by the Bay County Historical Museum.

Surviving family members include her son, Troy Gwizdala; her parents; Raymond and Geraldine Swiercz of Grayling; three sisters and two brothers, Diane (Joseph) Foucault of Essexville, Yvonne (Fiance, Harold Sauve) Swiercz and Cindy (Mark) Johnson of Bay City, Mark (DeAnne) Swiercz and David (Cindy) Swiercz of Grayling; nieces and nephews, Chad and Ashley Foucault, Jason Carlin, Justin Johnson, Nick Tompkins, and Chandler, Heather, and Nicholas Swiercz; along with several special friends.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated, Tuesday, December 4 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Essexville, with Reverend Thomas J. McNamara presiding. Cremation has taken place. Memorial contributions may be directed to "wishes of the family." Pam's family would like to extend their grateful appreciation to Dr. Michael Davison for all his care, support and kindness.

Arrangements by W.A. Trahan Funeral Chapel, Bay City.

Richard S. Corsette
March 5, 1929 - Dec. 2, 2001
Richard S. (Dick) Corsette, age 72, died at Tendercare Nursing Home in Gaylord, on Sunday, December 2.

Mr. Corsette moved from Detroit to Grayling after retiring from Ford Motor Company. He graduated from Michigan State University and served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War.

He leaves his beloved wife and best friend, Gail. The Corsettes were together for 49 years. Also, surviving are their three children, Lynda Stark, Richard (Terry) Corsette and Elizabeth (Chad) Noffsinger, his dear grandchildren, Rick Rieden, Ryane Stark, Katie and Torey Corsette, Alex Gabriel and Logan Noffsinger. Mr. Corsette leaves a brother, Harold (Joy) Corsette and a sister Marjorie (Fred) Sayles.

Friends and family will be gathering at Sorenson Funeral Home for services on Wednesday, December 5, at 2 p.m. Donations to Alzheimers Association, 100 Woods Circle, Alpena, MI 49707, or the charity of your choice would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Arrangement by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.



Heather Anne Millikin and Kyle Gerald Duba
David and Cheryl Millikin of Grayling and Edward and Peggy Duba of Grand Rapids announce the engagement of their children, Heather Anne Millikin and Kyle Gerald Duba. A March 2002 wedding is planned.

RANGE FIRING

Range firing scheduled during December 5 through December 11 is as follows:

The Range 40 Air to Ground Complex, located north of County Road 612, east of Guthrie Lake, south of Old State Road 618, and west of County Road F97 (Twin Bridge Road) will be conducting live and inert bombing operations by the Air National Guard during the following dates and times: December 5 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The Portage Creek Road bridge, located west of Howe Road, in South Camp is closed for construction.

For further information call 1-800-628-5820.

SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

by Jan Farley

Join us for a meal, either at noon or 5 pm weekdays except Friday, there is no evening meal. Please try to call for reservations at (989) 348-7123 or 1-888-355-4500, so that we know how many to plan for. The Center is located at 308 Lawndale, behind Burger King. Walk-ins are welcome.

Wed. Dec. 5 - Spanish Rice/ Brown Steak; Hearing Clinic, by appointment; Exercise and Line Dancing at 10 and 11 a.m.; Stag Cards at 12:30 p.m.; RSVP and Crafts at 1 p.m.; Wendy's Bingo at

5:30. Commodities at Hanson Hills from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Thu. Dec. 6 - BBQ Beef/ Porcupine Meatballs; BP's and Sugars taken from 11 a.m. to noon; Uno Attack at 5:30 p.m.

Fri. Dec. 7 - Turkey and Dressing/ no dinner; Pantry Bingo and 80-Cent Rummy at 1 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 8 - Foot clinic by appointment and reminder to bring your towel.

Mon. Dec. 10 - Lasagna/Wiener Schnitzel; Stag Cards at 12 noon; Bridge Club at 1 p.m.; and Hangman at 5:30 p.m.

Tue. Dec. 11 - Sweet and Sour Meatballs/Chicken Kiev; Euchre Club at 1 p.m. Medicine Shoppe Bingo at 5:30 p.m.

Wed. Dec. 12 - Swiss Steak/ Hawaiian Ham; Exercise and Line Dancing at 10 and 11 a.m.; Stag Cards at 12:30 p.m.; RSVP cards and Crafts at 1 p.m.; and Birthday dinner and White Elephant Auction at 5 p.m.

Above all this week, remember: It may take you a long time not to judge yourself through someone else's eyes!

SHERIFF'S REPORT

The Crawford County Sheriff Department handled the following 54 complaints the week of November 26 - December 2:

Nine traffic accidents, one parking violation, four private property accidents, three civil matter disputes - family trouble, four suspicious situations, one natural death, one missing person, seven general non-criminal;

One EMS response, one assault/intimidation/stalking, two burglary/home invasion, four larceny, two damage to property, three public peace/disorderly, one

OUIL/UBAL;

One driving violations/DWLS, etc., one conservation, one delinquent minors, one valid alarm, three false alarm activations, one burglary - entry without force, one fleeing or eluding (felony), one miscellaneous arrest.

GRAYLING POLICE REPORT

The Grayling Police Department handled the following 43 complaints during the week of November 25 through December 01:

Two misdemeanor citations, two

traffic accidents, one private property accident, one motorist assist, one misdemeanor arrest, one breaking and entering, four larcenies, one juvenile runaway, six assists to other departments, one alarm, one

attempt to locate, three animal complaints, one disturbance, two suspicious situations and eight unclassified complaints.

Eight traffic warnings were also given.



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SFC George C. Gingerick, MIANG-Ret.

Retired Sergeant First Class George C. Gingerick of Grayling, recently presented a personal check for \$5,000 to Barb Apley, a Camp Grayling Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) Club manager. SFC Gingerick made the donation to the NCO Club Building Fund for future projects to upgrade and enhance the NCO Club for all members.

SFC Gingerick retired from M.A.T.E.S. four years ago and his late wife, Nancy, was due to retire this year. Gingerick remarked "into some people's lives a little rain falls," but in his it was "a thunderstorm" this year when his wife of 38 years died.

SFC Gingerick noted, with all the support of his friends and fellow

soldiers from Camp Grayling, he felt he needed to give something back.

Gingerick made the donation in memory of his wife, Nancy. That was the basis for his donation to the NCO club, in that it was something that would benefit the majority of those who work, train and serve at Camp Grayling.

In attendance for the presentation of the monetary gift were: Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Fred Alkire, past club president; Cindy Merchand and Barb Apley, NCO Club Managers; Michigan Army National Guard Command Sergeant Major Miner Roth; and Camp Grayling Command Sergeant Major Terry Richardson.

MILITARY NEWS



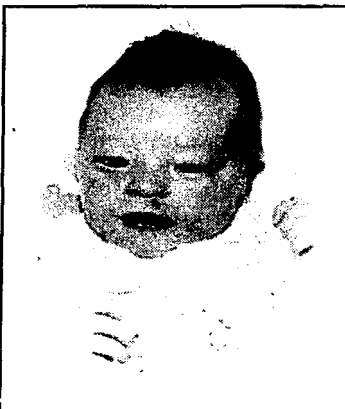
Machinist Mate
Matthew W. Kroell, USN

Matthew W. Kroell of Grayling graduated from Basic Training on September 13 at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Waukegan, Illinois.

He has since attended and graduated from submarine training school at U.S. Navy Submarine Base New London in Groton, Connecticut where he is currently stationed and attending machinist school.

Kroell is a 2001 graduate of Grayling High School and the son of Martin and Marsha Kroell of Grayling.

BIRTHS



Zachry Paul Osga

Jeff and Sarah Osga, of Grayling, announce the birth of Zachry Paul Osga

Zachry was born October 24, 2001 at Munson Hospital. He weighed in at eight pounds, three ounces and was 21 1/4 inches long.

Grandparents are: Jim and Mary Osga of Frederic and Don and MaryAnn Sagasser of Gaylord.

His great-grandmother is Cecilia Cinciala of Grayling.

BIRTHS

Darrin E. and Racquel Hawes announce the birth of Darrin Edward Hawes.

Darrin was born on November 21 at 3:27 p.m. at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey.

He weighed seven pounds, three ounces and was 17 1/2 inches long.

Big sister is Kayla and grandparents are Jerry and Diana Hawes of Oakley and Edward Schaub of Boyne City.

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Roscommon County 8th grade art students do their part in the annual Toys for Tots drive by painting holiday scenes and characters on the showroom windows at Don Nester Chevrolet/Oldsobile in Roscommon. This is the third year the dealership is attempting to fill the bed of a pick-up truck with toys for less fortunate children in the Roscommon area. Dealership representative Cindy Reda said, "We really enjoy doing this and each of our employees brings in an unwrapped gift to help toward the goal." The public is asked to drop off unwrapped toys by December 15.

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Dharma Records has what musicians need

► New shop in Grayling has a recording studio, instruments, more

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

Dharma Records, a relatively new addition to the downtown business district in Grayling, has a lot to offer for people who perform or record music, including a full-service in-house recording studio.

The shop, located on James Street in Grayling across the street from Spike's and next door to Blockbuster, offers services ranging from replacement of a reed for a wind instrument to recording and producing a compact disc for a band.

Al Bondar and his wife Diane opened the shop in September 2001. Al, who moved to Grayling in 1986, has performed live music in the Grayling area for many years. For several years, he played regularly at the Shoppenagon's Inn until the demand for live shows started to decline. "The live entertainment market is not what it used to be," he said, adding that he still performs a couple nights a week, though not nearly as much as he used to.

"I think I can have more success with the studio than live entertainment," Bondar said. "I always thought (opening a music store) would be a neat thing to do, but I was always on the road."

The Bondars' shop offers a lot of services and products for musicians of all levels of experience. The shop

buys, sells, and trades in a wide variety of musical gear, including electric guitars, acoustic guitars, bass guitars, amplifiers, drums, wind instruments, keyboards, DJ equipment, and mixers. Dharma Records also has a wide selection of accessories, such as guitar cases and gig bags, instrument cables, guitar strings, tuners, and microphones.

They can also special order just about anything music-related and have it in two or three days, Diane said.

The shop also has used compact discs in stock for sale.

Dharma Records offers student discounts, and "competitive" prices on all its new and used gear. "As far as pricing goes, we're real competitive," Diane said.

The shop also offers consignment sales (they'll sell your music gear for you for a small commission) and guitar lessons. They expect to have piano lessons available soon.

Perhaps the most noteworthy aspect of Dharma Records' business is its recording studio and related services.

"We can do everything a big studio can," Diane said.

People can record a vocal track over instrument tracks, karaoke-style or record a CD of original music from the ground up. If your band is missing a drummer or guitarist or bassist or you want to add a different instrument to the mix, they will bring someone in to play the necessary instrument, Diane said. "We deal with so many musicians, we can do that," she said.

If you already have a master CD recorded elsewhere, Dharma



Photo by Caleb Casey

Al and Diane Bondar opened Dharma Records in September. The shop, located on James Street in Grayling, has a recording studio and a wide variety of musical merchandise.

Records can duplicate it for you. They can also duplicate cassettes.

Dharma Records can also do off-site recording of live performances.

The Bondars also have a publishing company, and they promote a select number of musical recordings. "If someone brings in a good song and we think we can do something with it, we will," Al said. "We have had some success getting songs in movies and TV shows. As far as hitting the home run, we

haven't done that yet."

Bondar said he has also done pre-production for radio and TV commercials and voice-over work in his studio.

Dharma Records also provides a booking service for area bands. "If a band wants to be booked, we can do it," Diane said.

"(Business is) picking up," Diane said. "We've had a lot of traffic in here. I think it'll do well, but it will take awhile."

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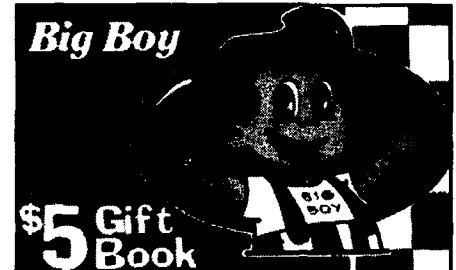
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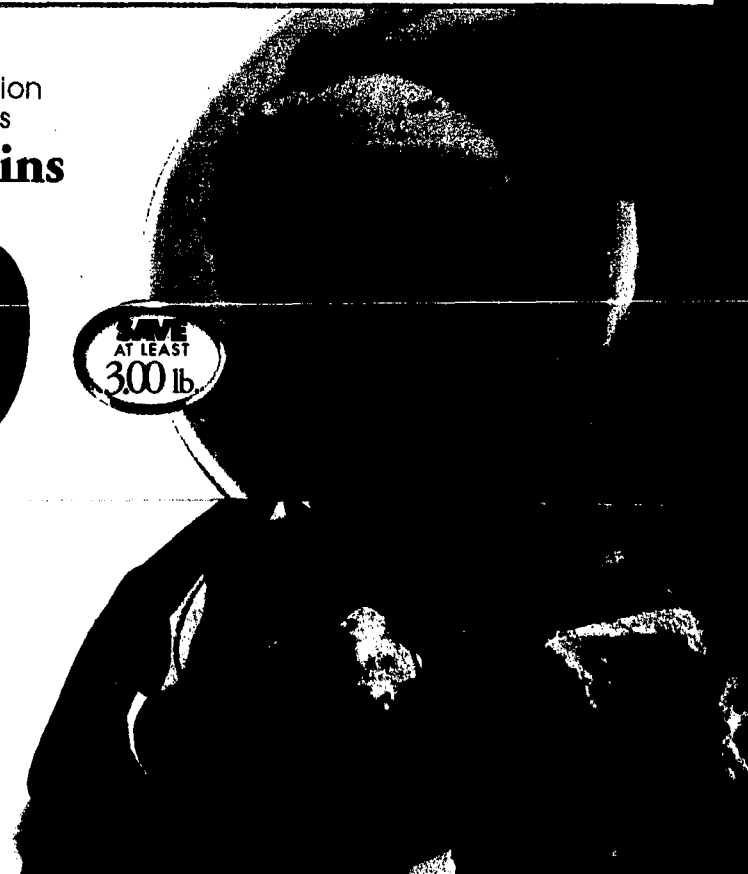
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1 Black Trend 8 pc. Cookware set per store given away.

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We reserve the right to limit quantities and are not responsible for pictorial or typographical errors.



GMS play 2B

Crawford County Avalanche

Thursday, December 6, 2001

High school boys basketball season opens this week

Vikings prepare for '01-02 hoops season

► Varsity team is working hard, but 'has a long way to go, Coach says

The Grayling High School varsity boys basketball team plays its first games of the season this week.

Head Coach Rich Moffit said this year's squad is a hard-working group that has already made a lot of improvement, but the players "have a long way to go." The Vikings will have to fight through some pre-season injuries and the team's depth may be tested early.

"We have had an interesting start

to our season thus far," said Coach Moffit. "We have three key seniors, Chet Wheeler, Nate Frankina, and Mike Hale, who are out for a period of time due to knee injuries. We have another senior (Nick D'Amour) who pulled a groin muscle and his status for the first game is unknown at this time. With all of the injuries, we have had to bring up some young kids, who have provided some depth at key positions for us."

The varsity team currently has six returning seniors, three other seniors, three juniors, two sophomores, and one freshman for a total of 15 players.

The players, listed with brief

Upcoming games:

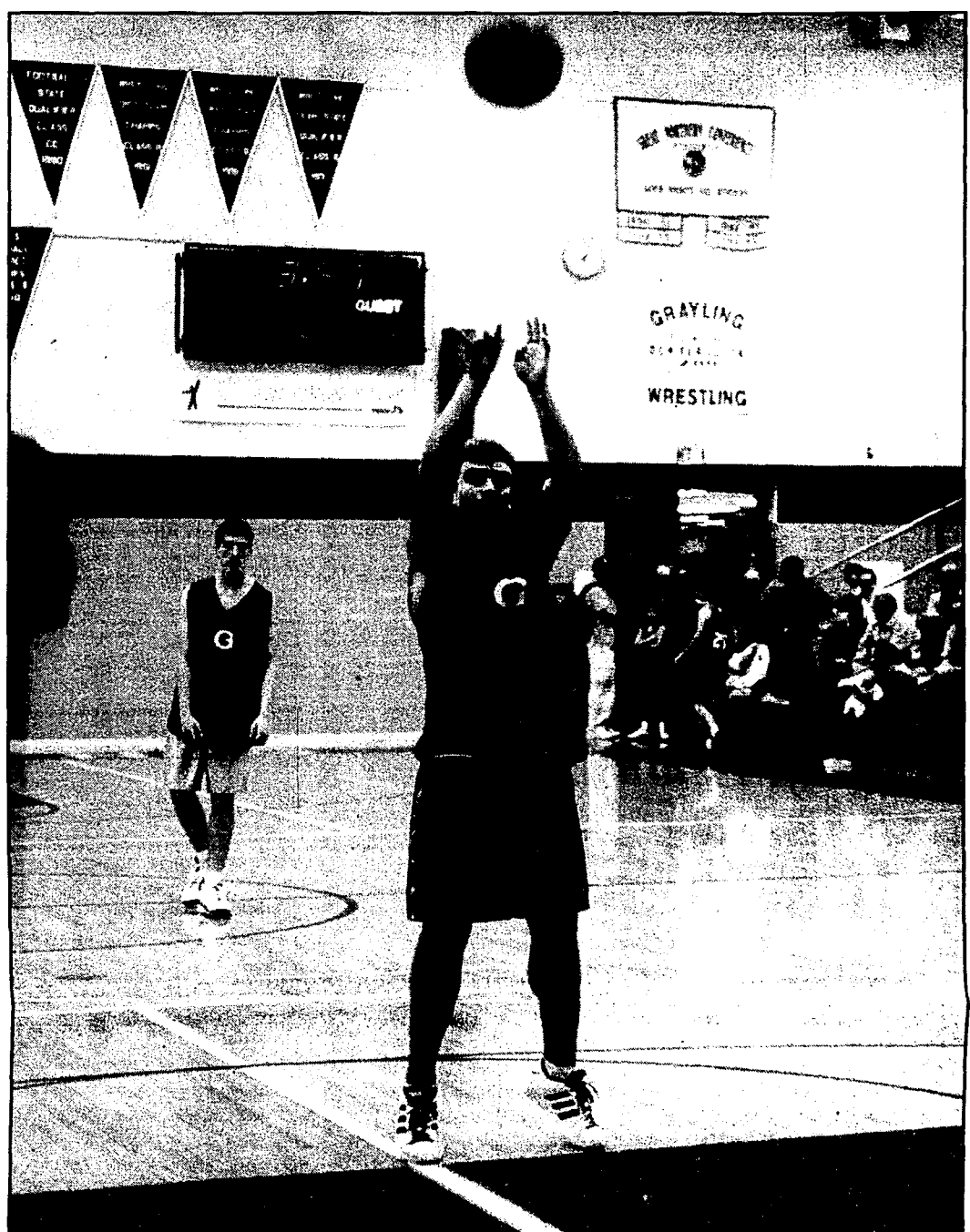
December 7 - (in Grayling)
Grayling vs. Gaylord 6 p.m.
December 11 - (in Grayling)
Grayling vs. Standish 6:15 p.m.
December 14 - (at Bay City)
Grayling vs. BCJG 6:15 p.m.

player profiles and a pre-season scouting report provided by Coach Moffit, are as follows:

• **Larry Baynham** - 6'0" senior forward; "Solid blue collar player who bangs the boards hard and runs the court very well."

Continued on Page 3B

See "VIKINGS PREPARE..."



Photos by Caleb Casey



Larry Baynham drives to the basket against defender Joe Lange in the Meet the Team scrimmage last Friday. At Meet the Team, GMS and GHS boys basketball teams were introduced, as well as the GHS cheer squads and girls volleyball teams.

Ryan Swope shoots a free throw at Meet the Team. The varsity team's seniors played a scrimmage game against the varsity squad's juniors, sophomores, and freshman to cap off the evening on Friday, November 30.

Twelve GHS band members selected for CMU Honor Band

► GHS and GMS bands to present holiday concerts

Twelve members of the Grayling High School Band were recently accepted into the Central Michigan University Honor Band. High school band students from all over Michigan submitted audition tapes to be accepted into this prestigious honors group. From the hundreds of students auditioning, an ensemble of approximately 85 musicians was selected. After a full weekend of rehearsals, the CMU Honor Band performed a concert on Sunday, November 18.

The Grayling High School Band will perform its Holiday Concert on Wednesday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m. The concert will feature Christmas selections performed by the Jazz Band, Brass Choir and the Symphony Band. Other highlights include *The Gladiator*, by John Philip Sousa and *Second Suite in F* by Gustav Holst.

The Grayling Middle School Band will perform their Holiday Concert on Tuesday, December 18, at 7:00 in the GMS gymnasium. All middle school bands, sixth through eighth grade, will delight the audience with holiday favorites as well as enjoyable concert selections.

All band concerts are open and free to the public.



Twelve GHS band members were recently accepted into the CMU Honor Band: (front, left to right) Elizabeth Banda, Ann Hughes, Apryl Rugenstein, Casey Mahaffy; (middle, left to right) Gail Hilliker, Ken Heinlein, Andi Holzbauer, Jenna Bugyi; (back, left to right) Todd Gaffke, Jason Henning, Alexis Sumner, Kip Franklin.

Photo courtesy of Grayling High School Band

Registration opens for annual triathlon

► Winter Wolf Challenge Triathlon to be held February 23 & 24, 2002

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

Registration is now open for the 2002 Winter Wolf Challenge Triathlon, a three-phase event that features cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and canoe or kayak paddling on the AuSable River.

This year's triathlon, the 26th annual, will offer two separate competitions: an individual event and a team event.

The individual competition will be held on February 23, 2002, and the team event will be conducted on February 24.

The triathlon will get underway each day with the canoe or kayak phase at 9 a.m. at Ray's Canoe Livery. Triathlon competitors will paddle downstream from Ray's on the AuSable to the Rayburn Property, then tackle the second phase of the event: snowshoeing.

Continued on Page 5B

See "REGISTRATION..."

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'The Rented Christmas' warms hearts



Photos by Cheryl Ruley

Saint Nicholas
 is coming to Grayling
 this Saturday, December 8

Share your Bounty!
 Drop off food items at the participating businesses for Saint Nick to collect on Saturday.

For the "Kids"
 Attend a matinee at the Historic Rialto Theatre at 1:00.
 (admission is 1 can of food)

Collect the different "Legends of Saint Nicholas" from the various businesses.
 Many shops will be open until 8:00 pm for your shopping convenience

All donations of food will go to the Crawford County Christian Community Help Center

Participating Businesses

Au Sable Gifts	The Bicycle Shop	Davis Jeweler's
Boards & Beyond	Enchanted Forest	J. Dap
Flower's by Josie	Grayling Restaurant,	The Icehouse
Lady Slipper Gifts	Northern Concepts	Riverland Gear
Parrott's Perch	Spikes Keg O'Nails	Rialto Theatre
Steven's Family Circle	Signals & Sounds	
Mercy Hospital Gift Shop	Gannon Broadcasting	

by Cheryl Ruley
 Staff Writer

For two performances, November 30 and December 1, audiences were treated to the heart-warming script of "The Rented Christmas," presented by Grayling Middle School Students in the Joseph Stripe Auditorium at Grayling High School.

Under the guidance of Director Stacey Rosin-Gay and her Assistant Director, Jessica Wakeley, the players told the story of a wealthy, but lonely, man who rents a family for Christmas with the hopes of having a real Christmas.

When the group of actors who first signed on to play the parts of five children and a wife cancel, an ingenious plan to have orphans fill the parts ensues. The woman hired to "rent" Christmas agrees to play the wife. She finds an old photo that turns out to be the man's old homestead and has it framed as a gift.

As holiday stories go, the "Christmas play" the group puts on is so convincing and the wealthy man enjoys the holiday so much (especially the thoughtfully framed photo), he adopts all five orphans and asks the woman to be his "real" wife. She accepts and all is right with the world.

The roster of names at the lower right of this page includes all the players. Two casts were chosen -- one for each performance -- and players shared roles in both performances.



GMS 2001 Play Roster "The Rented Christmas"

Jamie Wyss
 Summer Coe
 Bob Ramaswamy
 Chuck Hughes
 Austin Andrus
 Chelsea Currison
 Sarah Lange
 Megan Smith
 Renee Clair
 Kilah Vanderstelt
 John Ventline
 Beth Ventline
 Kara Edgerton
 Kristina Weiso
 Brenden Crawl
 Andrew Felver
 Kristy Hardy
 Chelsea VanNuck
 Vickie King
 Elizabeth Whiting
 Katie Messerschmidt
 Tori Wardecke
 Erin Morrell
 Jacob Neiderhouse

Assistant Director
 Jessica Wakeley

Director
 Stacey Rosin-Gay

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 Choose a lighted 19" Santa, 18" Angel or 18" Candy Cane. One piece construction with 43 bulbs 9807785, 9838558, 9806977

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 Choose 24" wreaths or 9' garland, 50 clear or multi-color mini lights. For indoor/outdoor use. UL listed. 9833120, 187, 229, 9833252

\$9.99
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 Choose from 3 different seasonal scenes. 18" x 30" 6087761, 787, 6091581

2/\$5.00
 100 Mini Lights
 Indoor/outdoor use. UL listed. Clear or Multi. 9827007, 9826009

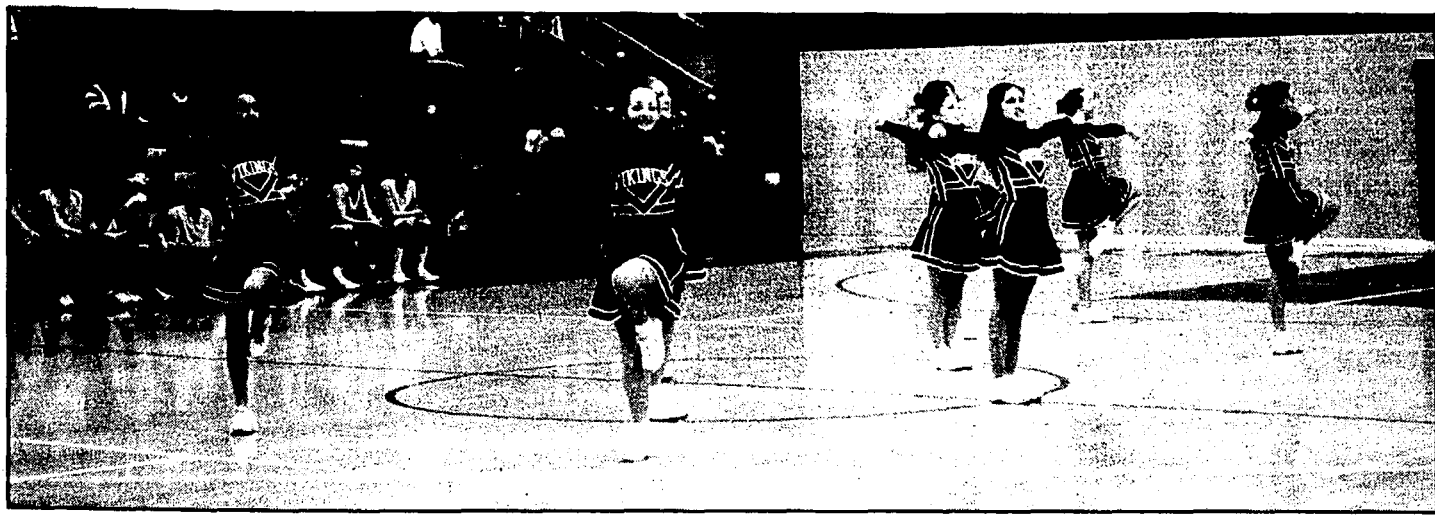
\$4.99
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The GHS varsity cheerleading team performs at Meet the Team night on Friday, November 30.

VIKINGS PREPARE FOR '01-02 HOOPS SEASON

Continued from Page 1B

• **R.J. Schmidt** – 6'0" senior guard; "Started at the end of the season last year. Good shooter who can put some points on the board."

• **Ryan Swope** – 6'0" senior center; "Solid defender and rebounder. Must have a big year playing his role for us if we are to be successful."

• **Nick D'Amour** – 5'11" senior guard; "Three-year varsity player who missed most of last season due to illness. Strong player who is a good passer and shooter. He's a canoe marathon racer – you know he's tough."

• **Scott Latusek** – 5'8" senior guard; "Quickest kid in our program. Very good defender who has really improved from last year. Good transition player."

• **Wes Fox** – 5'10" senior guard; "Great decision maker who is a good passer and defender."

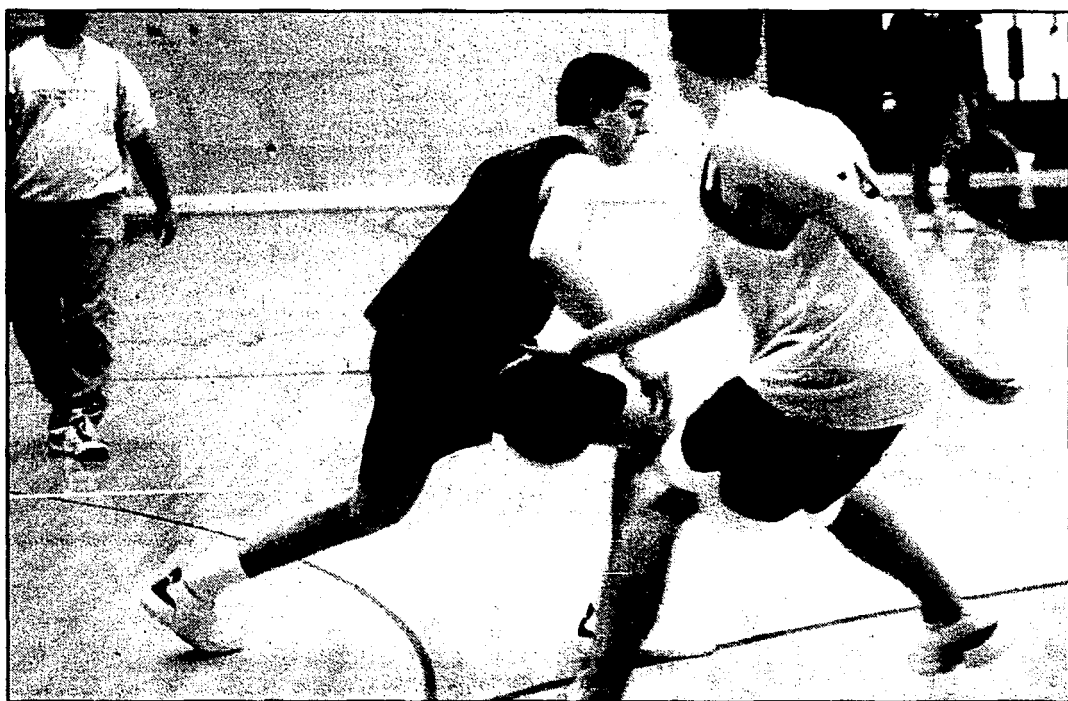
• **Nate Frankina** – 6'3" senior center; "Solid rebounder who has a nice outside shot."

• **Mike Hale** – 5'8" senior guard; "Very quick player who is a solid defender in our press."

• **Chet Wheeler** – 6'0" senior guard; "Good scorer who is a good inside-outside player. Plays well in the open court."

• **Adam Kaiser** – 6'0" junior guard; "Solid outside shooter who has really improved."

• **Chris Wakeley** – 5'9" junior guard; "Scrappy defender who can knock down the 'three.'"



Photos by Caleb Casey

Nate Frankina handles the ball for the "seniors" squad at the Meet the Team scrimmage last Friday.

• **Roger Alvarez** – 6'1" junior forward; "Big strong kid who transferred to Grayling from Lansing Waverly. Nice shot. He has improved a great deal since the beginning of the season."

• **Joe Lange** – 6'2" sophomore forward; "Good offensive rebounder who is a quick jumper."

• **Joe Zelek** – 6'2" sophomore forward; "Good rebounder who has good range on his jump shot."

• **Gibby Tobin** – 5'4" freshman guard; "Good playmaker who is a

solid defender." "Overall, I have been very pleased with the work ethic of this group," Coach Moffit said. "Our kids are a blue collar group that has worked very hard in the pre-season and our improvement has been immense. However, we still have a long ways to go. The thing that I like about this group is that they have a great attitude and are willing to learn. We could be a very competitive by the end of the year."

"The NEMC should be very competitive this year," said Coach Moffit. "Ogemaw Heights is the team to beat on paper. They have some talented kids coming back with a solid coach in Jim Beach leading the way. Oscoda, Bay City John Glenn, Tawas, Pinconning, and Standish all have key players coming back and could contend for the NEMC title. Gladwin is replacing some players from last year, but has some talented kids and could be in the running."

YOUTH BOWLING

Senior League

Life Guards	24 -12
Beach Bums	22 -14
Surfer Dudes/Bikini Babes	21 -15
Beached Whales	21 -15
Extreme Heat	18 -18
Thrasher Sharks	14 -22
Tidal Waves	14 -22
Hammer Heads	10 -26
Boys High Game: S. Gildner, 195; T. LaMotte, 189; N. McNamar, 188.	
Boys High Series: S. Gildner, 544; T. LaMotte, 492; N. McNamar, 478.	
Girls High Game: K. Davis, 226; B. Yanniello, 171; S. Respecki, 134.	
Girls High Series: K. Davis, 531; B. Yanniello, 430; S. Respecki, 358.	

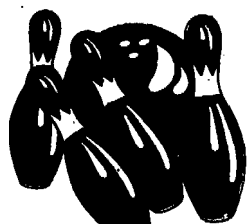
Junior League

Mer-People	21 1/2 -5 1/2
Sharks	14 -13
Hawaiian Punch	11 -16
Sea Horses	10 -17

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Standings

Sawmill II	100
Swamp II	86
Spikes	85
Legion	80
Frederic Inn	80
Plaza	71
Holiday Inn	69
Sawmill I	53
5 Ball Run: Tina, Holiday Inn; Vickie, Sawmill I; Annette and Tonya, Plaza; Lannete, Spikes; Melanie and Patsy, Sawmill II; Julie, Frederic Inn.	
6 Ball Run: Rose and Annette, Swamp II; Dec, Spikes.	
8 Ball Run: Cookie, Legion.	



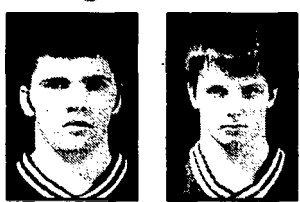
Palm Trees	10- 17
Coconuts	8 1/2 -15 1/2
Boys High Game: E. Ferrigan, 90; J. Helsel, 85; T. Hanson, 83.	
Boys High Series: T. Hanson, 153; J. Helsel, 149; A. Love, 149.	
Girls High Game: A. Helsel, 78; A. Hoover, 73; L. Johnson, 67.	
Girls High Series: A. Hoover, 126; C. Johnson, 119; A. Helsel, 119.	

Pee Wee League

Shrimps	15 -5
Snails	13 -7
Starfish	9- 11
Dolphins	3- 17
Boys High Game and High Series: C. Adams, 89; J. Robertson 72; J. Hoover, 71.	
Girls High Game and High Series: C. Johnson, 65; S. Dyer, 56; K. Helsel, 55.	

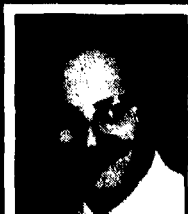
Wendy's

Vikings of the Week



Wrestling
Coach: Don Ferguson
DUSTY PARTELLO & AARON ROSECRANS

Aaron and Dusty both posted 6-1 records for the GHS wrestling team at the squad's first tournament this past Saturday.



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1. Chicago (26)
2. Miami
3. Baltimore
4. New England
5. Pittsburgh
6. New York
7. Tennessee
8. Tennessee
9. Seattle (23)
10. St. Louis
11. Kansas City
12. Cincinnati
13. New York
14. Notre Dame
15. Tennessee
16. Michigan State (62)

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- One free lunch, a \$8.95 value --Grayling Holiday Inn
- \$50--Crawford County Avalanche
- \$10 Gift Cert.--Riverland Gear
- \$5 Gift Cert. good on a 10" or 14" pizza --Buccilli's Pizza
- \$25 Gift Cert.--Comfort Center
- Free lube, oil and filter
- Scott McNamara Ford-Mercury, Inc
- \$10 Gift Cert. --Lucky & Laura's
- \$10 Gift. Cert. -- U.S.A. Trailer Sales

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12 correct with tiebreaker one (23)

3 entries with 12 correct
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• 87 Entries

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7. Cleveland vs. New England

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8. San Diego vs. Philadelphia

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9. Jacksonville vs. Miami

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10. Tennessee vs. New York

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•Monday: Pitches of beer \$5.00

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25 oz. Mugs \$2.00

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11. Washington vs. New York

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12. NY Jets vs. Pittsburgh

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13. Kansas City vs. Oakland

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14. Denver vs. Denver

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15. Valley vs. Valley

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16. Denver vs. Los Angeles

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WEEK #14

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Address _____

Signature _____

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Winner	Advertiser	Winner	Advertiser	Winner	Advertiser
Game 1 _____		Game 8 _____		Game 15 _____	
Game 2 _____		Game 9 _____		Game 16 _____	
Game 3 _____		Game 10 _____			
Game 4 _____		Game 11 _____			
Game 5 _____		Game 12 _____		Tiebreaker 1 Game #1 _____	
Game 6 _____		Game 13 _____		Tiebreaker 2 game #9 _____	
Game 7 _____		Game 14 _____		Tiebreaker 3 game #16 _____	

Avalanche Football Contest Official Rules

(1) Contestants must list the advertiser in which each game is found. Write your prediction for the games played, advertisers and tiebreakers (total points scored by both teams) on entry form. Entry form without advertisers listed will be invalid. The person with the most correct picks wins all the weekly prizes listed. If the tie breaker can not determine a winner, a drawing will be held to select a single winner. (2) One entry per person a week will be accepted. Crawford County Avalanche employees are not eligible. (3) Completed entry forms must be returned to the Avalanche no later than 5 pm Friday before each week's games. Mail slot in our door may be used Wednesday or Thursday night after 5 pm and before 9 am. Mailed entries must be postmarked no later than 5 pm Friday. Mail to Crawford County Avalanche, P.O. Box 480, Grayling, MI 49738. (4) Entries must be on an official entry form as printed in the Avalanche. No purchase necessary to enter. Entry forms are available at the Avalanche office between 9 am and 5 pm weekdays. Identification and a social security number must be presented when claiming prizes.

Registration opens for annual triathlon

Continued from Page 1B

Triathlon "challenge" participants must navigate a three-mile snowshoe course. A one-mile course for "fun competitors" will also be available.

After the snowshoe event, there will be a brief break in the action until the start of the cross country ski phase at 11 a.m. at Hanson Hills.

The ski course, the final phase of the triathlon, will span 8.4 kilometers.

Teams willing to take on the triathlon must sign up in groups of three. Each team member will complete one leg of the triathlon.

The Winter Wolf Triathlon individual competition has been around since 1974. The team competition is a new addition to the event. The team option was

added last year, but last year's team triathlon event was canceled due to poor weather conditions.

Teams can be all-male, all-female, or mixed.

In the individual event, prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers of the male division and female division in three age categories: 14-19 (Junior), 20-39 (Classic), and 40+ (Masters).

Competitors must provide their own canoe or kayak and cross country skis. Snowshoes will be provided, but competitors can also choose to use their own snowshoes.

To register for the 2002 Winter Wolf Challenge Triathlon, visit the main office at Hanson Hills. The cost to sign up is \$20 (before February 9) or \$25 on race day for individuals, and \$36 per team

(\$50 on race day).

"We'd really like to get this thing to be a huge event," said David Sabin, one of the event's organizers. "If we get some of the more serious racers, we could expand it and make it a tougher race."

More than 20 individuals finished last year's triathlon. Several teams were signed up to compete in the team event prior to its cancellation.

Sabin, one of the people who helped organize the first Winter Wolf Triathlon in 1976, serves on what he calls an "ad hoc committee" with area residents Cindy Olson, Gretchen Walsh, and Ellen Thompson, all of whom work together to coordinate the triathlon.

"The people who work on the

triathlon are all volunteers," Sabin said. "Those three girls put in a lot of time and effort, just because they think winter sports should be a focus in Grayling. We have to take advantage of what nature gives us."

The Winter Wolf Triathlon is held in conjunction with Grayling Recreation Authority's annual Winter Fun Days Festival (February 22-24, 2002) at Hanson Hills.

This year, Johnson Outdoors was added as a primary sponsor of the triathlon. Johnson Outdoors manufactures kayaks, paddles, and other outdoor products.

Other event sponsors include Hart Ford, the Grayling Area Visitors Council, and Tubbs Snowshoes, Sabin said.

BOWLING LEAGUE

American Men's
McLeans Ace 21 -14
Forrest Brothers 19 -16
Moore's Automotive 19 -16
Scheer Motors 18 -17
CSI Ind. Systems 18 -17
North Woods Land Co. 16 -19
Fentons Auto 15 -20
Barber Construction 14 -21
High Game: L. Davis Jr., 258; J. Arwood, 245; M. Smith, 245.
High Series: L. Davis Jr., 634; J. Arwood, 614; D. Canfield, 607.

Friday Mixed Doubles
Chicken Little Joint Project. 42-10
NewlyWeds 30-22
Moshier Auto Repair. . . 26 1/2-25 1/2
Kens Tire & Auto. 26 1/2-25 1/2
Charles Country Corner. . . 25-27
Double Trouble. 21-31
Aunt Bettys 19-33
Fick & Sons. 18-34
High Game Men: C. Hanson, 226; D. Yanniello, 214; J. Campbell, 206.
High Series Men: C. Hanson, 564; D. Wallace, 561; J. Campbell, 549.
High Game Women: S. Johnson, 190; K. Moshier, 185; N. Trudeau, 184.
High Series Women: S. Johnson, 509; K. Moshier, 490; J. Hinds, 473.

Seniors
Grayling Pharmacy 31-21
Buccillis Pizza. 30 1/2-21 1/2
Cornell Insurance 30 1/2-21 1/2
Sylvesters Sports 28-24
Flowers by Josie 25-27
Baynham Wood Products . . . 23-29
Spikes Keg O'Nails 22-30
Halls Snow Removal 18-34
High Game Men: K. Harris, 219; G. Wolfe, 214; L. Crampton, 213.
High Series Men: G. Wolfe, 570; L. Crampton, 542; B. Hollis, 542.
High Game Women: M. Baker, 186; P. Harris, 171; D. Hollis, 160.
High Series Women: P. Harris, 478; M. Baker, 465; D. Hollis, 436.
Northwood

Plaza Bar 36-16
Riverland 31-21
North Michigan Financial . . . 29-23
Hart Pontiac-GMC. 28-24
R. Calkins and Sons 23-29
Corky's Karaoke 22-30
R & M Masonry. 21-31
Hometown. 18-34
High Game: D. Calkins, 196; M. Starks, 190; S. Romain, 180.
High Series: M. Starks, 524; A. Evon, 485; L. Dannenberg, 481.

Sunday Nite Mixed
Helsel Brother's 66-25
R & M Masonry 55-36
Waste Management 45-46
Wakeley's Auto Parts 45-46
Jack's. 44-47
McDonalds 37-54
Moshier Auto Repairs 36-55
Custom Interior. 36-55
Men's High Game: D. Canfield, 245; J. Robideau, 244; B. Nielson, 214.
Men's High Series: J. Robideau, 628; R. Marwede, 604; D. Canfield, 593.
Women's High Game: J. Hinds, 209; S. Romain, 206; L. Dannenberg and B. Nielson, 181.
Women's High Series: S. Romain, 564; J. Hinds, 533; M. Miller, 512.

Pioneer
Custom Interior. 29-19
Aunt Betty's. 29-19
Rochette's. 28-20

Chemical Bank 27-21
Millikin's 24-24
McDonald's of Grayling 22-26
Avalanche 17-31
South Side River Rats 16-32
High Game: S. Goss, 201; J. Hinds, 201; D. Hollis, 194.
High Series: J. Hinds, 546; S. Goss, 539; C. Jones, 530.

Triangle League
Ghost Team 36-16
Barber Construction 34-18
Moshier's Auto Repair 28-24
Sawmill Tavern. 25-27
Stitches by Sue. 24-28
Central MI. Painting Co. 21-31
Gray Rock Café 19-33
Deane Systems 17-35
High Game: D. Canfield, 257; R. Marwede, 219; C. Rock, 201.
High Series: D. Canfield, 630; R. Marwede, 596; J. Arwood, 543.

National First
Hart PontiacGMC 57-20
Denholm Chiropractic. 53-24
Faustman's Insurance 45-32
Hellebuyck Masonry. 34-43
Northern White Tail Ranch. . . 33-44
AuSable Construction 30-47
Legion Lanes 30-47
Miller's Production. 26-51
High Game: J. Helsel, 246; J. Thayer, 238; T. Kotrash, 232.
High Series: J. Helsel, 645; T. Kotrash, 627; T. Devins, 616.

Recreation

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Sunday, December 9th • 8:30 am to 11:10 am
All-You-Can-Eat: Eggs, Sausage, Potatoes, Pancakes, Applesauce, Coffee and /or Milk **\$4.00**
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4430 M-72 HWY EAST • 989-348-3200
(ACROSS FROM INDUSTRIAL DRIVE)
MON-FRI 8:30 - 5 SAT 8:30 - 12 NOON

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SAVE EACH DAY!
Monday - Gloves & Covers 10% off
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TERRY'S SPORT CENTER, INC. 989-348-7513
M-72 West, Grayling

LEGAL ACTION

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

DEFAULT has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Robert J. Weigel and Barbara J. Weigel, Husband and Wife, to United Companies Lending Corporation, mortgagee, dated July 10, 1998 and recorded July 28, 1998 in Liber 459, Page 219-224, Crawford County Records. Said mortgage is now held by Bankers Trust Company of California, N.A. by assignment dated November 20, 1998 and recorded on July 13, 1999 in Liber 485, Page 631-632, Crawford

County Records. There is claimed to be due on such mortgage the sum of Eighty-Nine Thousand Twenty-One and 90/100 Dollars (\$89,021.9) including interest at the rate of 11.75% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the statutes of the State of Michigan, notice is hereby given that the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front door of the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on December 19, 2001.

The premises are located in the Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

The East 2 acres of that part of the West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 16, T26N, R2W, lying Southerly of M-72 Highway. ALSO

that part of the East 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 16, T26N, R2W, lying Southerly of M-72 Highway.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale in the event a 3rd party buys the property and there is a simultaneous resolution with the borrower.

Dated: November 8, 2001
ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC
Attorneys for Bankers Trust Company of California, N.A.,
As Assignee
2501 Rochester Court
Troy, MI 48063
(248) 457-1000
File No. 199.0280

-8-15-22-29-6

GRAYLING TOWNSHIP BOARD Regular Meeting November 14, 2001

Members Present: Tom Hall, Janice Annis, Ruth O'Mara, Monica Ashton, and Terry Wright.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Lee Riley, Dale French, Dave Lovely, Dennis Long, Lynnette Corlew, Bernard Fowler, Dave Frederick, Carson & Darlene Randall, Marie & Dale Rohde, James Downer.

Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by O'Mara, second by Hall, to approve minutes of 10-08-2001 as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Treasurer's report for October was read and placed on file.

Correspondence: (No action required)

Grayling Township Recycling Report for October, Chamber Newsletter for November 2001.

Business:

1. Presentation by James Downer, MDOT, Bureau of Aeronautics, regarding their request to partner with the City of Grayling and Grayling Township on operation of civilian facilities at the airport. Currently the MDOT, Bureau of Aeronautics has a 25 year lease, with 5 year renewal option with the Dept. of Military Affairs for the civilian area of the Grayling McNamara Airport.

Comments by Bernard Fowler, Dennis Long, Dave Frederick, Lee Riley and Lynnette Corlew that caution should be used before entering into an agreement so that past problems will not be repeated. Examples: Snowplowing of runways and ramp, NOTAMS, fuel sales, utilities, length of lease.

Is the proposed agreement any different than the one the C.C.T.A. had directly with the D.M.A.? Not known. No civilian operation was able to succeed under previous agreements.

Consensus of the Township Board that a committee be formed to evaluate the proposed agreement and compare it to the original that was unworkable. Members of the committee should include persons that are aware of the problems encountered previously.

2. Residents, Carson & Darlene Randall and Dale & Marie Rohde, request that the

Board consider adoption of a leaf burning ordinance. The smoke from leaves burning is particularly bothersome in the area along Margrethe Boulevard. Mr. Randall provided information from the American Lung Association for the Board's review.

Supervisor will acquire similar regulations from other communities and place the subject on the December 2001 agenda.

3. Sheriff Lovely updated the status of the C.O.P.S. Grant which assists in providing a deputy for Grayling Township.

4. Motion by O'Mara, second by Annis, to accept petition for paving of Whirlpool Road, signed by a majority of owners of frontage, and schedule a public hearing of necessity for January 9, 2001. All ayes, motion carried.

5. Motion by Ashton, second by Hall, to appoint Janice Annis, Dale French and Pat Merrill to fill the vacancies on the Grayling Township Planning Commission. All ayes, motion carried.

6. Motion by Annis, second by Hall, to approve payment of claims on vouchers 23192-23199, 23251-23291, Guardian Dental \$618.48, Bd. & Comm. fees \$210.00, Liquor Inspections \$90.00, for a grand total of \$97,920.38. All ayes, motion carried.

7. Motion by Annis, second by Ashton, to adjourn. All ayes, motion carried.
Monica S. Ashton, C.M.C.
Grayling Township Clerk

SYNOPSIS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grayling Housing Commission will be holding two public hearings on its Agency Plan. The Annual Plan is a compilation of the Housing Commissioner's functional policies. The Five-year Plan is a guide for Housing Commission activities in the future.

As these plans are constructed, the Housing Commission must allow public review of these policies and allow for comment. Therefore, as of November 1, the Agency Plan and its constituent plans will be available for public review at the Housing Commission's office, located at 308 Lawndale Drive. At the regularly scheduled meetings, on November 13th and December 11th, at 6:30 p.m. public hearings will be held in order to receive any public comments on the plans.

Anyone having any information concerning Eric Donell Bankhead or his heirs and legatees of this individual, please contact Barry W. Dowd at 1220 North 18th Street, Suite 301, Monroe, LA 71201. Phone Number (318) 322-9499.

LIBRARY NOTICE
BIDS FOR COMPUTERS
The Crawford County Library Board will be releasing Bid Documents for Computer Workstations and accessories on December 3, 2001 to bidders capable of providing and installing a quantity of computers for the new Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library.
Bid Documents may be picked up at the Crawford County Treasurer's Office 200 W. Michigan Ave., MI 49738
Bids will be due at the same location on December 18, 2001 at or before 2:00 p.m. A public bid opening will be held at the Crawford County Courthouse at 2:30 p.m. on December 18, 2001.
Barbara Clark Greene, President
Crawford County Library Board

LEGAL ACTION

SYNOPSIS

CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Regular Board Meeting of November 21, 2001

The Regular meeting of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Scott Hanson at 9:49 a.m. in the County Building on November 21, 2001.

Roll Call: Hanson, Golinick, Pinkelman, Corlew, Wetland and Beardslee.

Absent - None

Sandra Moore, County Clerk-Register of Deeds - Present.

Paul Compas, County Controller - Present.

Others present at various times.

---Moved to place a communication from North Michigan Substance Abuse Services, Inc. under new business.

---Moved to approve the Board Minutes for the October 24, 2001 Regular Board Meeting as presented.

---Moved to authorize the FY2001/02 appropriation to NEMCOG in the amount of \$2,933.00 from the Environmental Fund.

---Moved to request the Controller submit a response to Mr. Mahank thanking him for his input and noting that his resubmitted suggestions were discussed at length and in some cases implemented.

---Moved to adopt the following General Fund Budget Amendments netting a total reduction of \$16,000.00 for an amended budget of \$4,609,147.00:

Revenues

Circuit Court - state reimbursement

-25,000.00

District Court - probationary costs

6,000.00

Friend of the Court - state reimbursement

4,000.00

Clerk - recording fees

-11,000.00

Prosecutor - coop reimbursement

4,000.00

Crime Victim - state reimbursement

11,000.00

Sheriff - state reimbursement

3,000.00

Marine - local reimbursement

-6,000.00

Grayling Twp. - state reimbursement

-5,000.00

Jail - inmate reimbursement

3,000.00

Expenses

Coop Reimbursement - service charge

-1,000.00

Building and Grounds - heat

-2,000.00

Sheriff - retirement

10,000.00

Contingency -33,000.00

Transfers Out - Building & Zoning

1,600.00

Child Care -7,800.00

Soldiers & Sailors

-600.00

---Moved to request Medical Examiner Dr. William McNamara negotiate a contract with Pathologist Dr. James R. Hall of West Branch to serve our needs for autopsies with the exception of requests by law enforcement personnel on special cases. To request the Prosecutor work with adjoining counties on a procedure for calling Medical Examiners when needed.

---Moved to authorize payment of the following claims: General Fund - prepaid vouchers, payroll and open invoices on the November 13, 2001 report in the amount of \$407,889.67; D.A.R.E. Fund - payroll and open invoices on the November 13, 2001 report in the amount of \$725.40; Environmental Control Fund - cell phone reimbursement for Merrill, payroll and open invoice on the November 13, 2001 report in the amount of \$3,240.54; Central Dispatch Fund - prepaid voucher, payroll and open invoices on the November 13, 2001 report in the amount of \$18,086.98; Building and Zoning Fund - per diem for Beardslee and Anderson, mileage and per diem for Duran, prepaid voucher, payroll and open invoices on the November 13, 2001 report in the amount of \$13,601.77; Remuneration Fund - prepaid voucher in the amount of

\$1,225.00; COPS in School Fund - payroll in the amount of \$3,782.46; Fish Fund - open invoice on the November 13, 2001 report in the amount of \$1,721.50.

---Moved to accept correspondence as submitted.

---Moved to allow a presentation by Diane Frankowski, Adult Services Worker for the Family Independence Agency (FIA).

---Moved to submit a letter to the State of Michigan Family Independence Agency and advise the 2003 Cooperative Reimbursement Contract Application and Contract language was reviewed and no significant changes were necessary.

---Moved to adopt a resolution of concurrence with the 2001/2002 Northeast Michigan Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Report

---Moved to accept the resignation of Robert Smock, Jr. from the Fish Hatchery Steering Committee with regrets and send him a letter of appreciation for time served.

---Moved to submit a letter to the Department of Transportation expressing interest for the 50 foot wide strip of land near the Courthouse to be decided to the County.

---Moved to submit a letter to the Viking Band Program and advise the County cannot allocate funds to their program due to State mandates.

---Moved to hold the Annual Employee Christmas Luncheon on Wednesday, December 19, 2001 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Commissioners will provide the meat and request employees bring a dish to pass.

---Moved to request the Fair Board submit any and all sub-leases for Board approval and provide a copy of their hold harmless insurance.

---Moved to offer a retirement window to those AFSCME employees who are eligible to retire at a B-4 level. This window would be available after the actuary is available and from 12/15/01 - 2/15/02.

---Moved to offer a retirement window to the general employee group, non-union, for those employees who have completed 20 years of service. This window would be available after the actuary is available and from 12/15/01 - 02/15/02.

---Moved to set a Special Board Meeting on Thursday December 13, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. to review the MERS actuarial prior to opening a window to retirees and any other business that may be legally conducted.

---Moved to notify Michigan State University that funding for the Extension Office will end effective 2/01/02 unless funding can be secured to completely fund the two (2) positions.

---Moved to rescind the paragraph on the bottom of page 2 of the 2002 Budget Appropriations Act relating to temporary hiring by Department Heads. There must be no replacement of personnel without prior approval of the Board of Commissioners.

---Moved to enter into an Executive Session to discuss legal opinions provided by Assistant Prosecutor David Sabin (11:42 a.m.).

Executive Session began at 11:42 and concluded at 12:22 p.m.

---Moved to adopt the following fee increases effective 12/01/01:

PBT Tests \$ 5.00

Vital Records 15.00 first

copy/10.00 each additional

Fax Services 3.00 per page

Notarization 2.00 per signature

Rent of property 45.00 per half day

& 60.00 per full day

Solid Waste Plan 250.00 per copy

Zoning fee Residential 50.00

Zoning fee Commercial 150.00

ZBA Application 275.00

Special Use Permit 300.00

Soil Erosion Permit 125.00

---Moved to notify the Townships of Beaver Creek, Maple Forest and South Branch and inform them that the zoning enforcement position will be eliminated January 1, 2002.

---Moved to reduce the Sheriff Department wages & fringe benefit line items budget by \$50,149.00.

---Moved to mandate an expense budget that is \$100,000.00 lower than the revenue budget.

---Moved to place the \$500,000.00 proceeds from the Landfill Trust Fund into the Tax Revolving Fund for the purposes of self-funding.

---Moved to adopt a Resolution requesting the State of Michigan to pay fifty percent of

reimbursement cost to house juveniles in County Youth Homes.

---Moved to accept the Hazard Mitigation Grant agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through 10-31-02.

---Moved to accept the Controllers recommendations on new enhancements to our deferred compensation plans for employee participants.

---Moved to request the Controller notify the COAM/POAM Union representatives after the actuarial report is received from MERS so negotiations can be completed.

---Moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2002 County Child Care Budget through the Michigan Family Independence Agency (FIA) in the amount of \$291,829.00.

---Moved to submit a letter to Attorney Peter Cohl for review advising the Court must live within the FY2001-02 budget.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

A full context of the meeting minutes is available in the clerk's office.

Sandra Moore
Clerk/Register of Deeds

RECORD OF CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Meeting held on the 12th day of November, 2001 Grayling, Michigan

Meeting called to order by City Clerk King at 8:00 P.M.

Members Present: Hayes, Moshier, Wyman, Awiszus, Banda.

Members Absent: None.

Also in Attendance: Allen Lowe, City Manager, Terry McGregor, Coshay, Bob Butzin, Steve Langseth, Jill Wyman, Karl Awiszus, Rodney Addison, Ruby Gill.

The City Clerk introduced the two new members of the City Council, Kathy Awiszus and Roger Moshier and on behalf of the city employees and the other council members look forward to working together for the next 4 years.

Nominations for Mayor. Moshier nominated Dave Wyman for Mayor, supported by Banda. Moved by Banda, supported by Awiszus to close nominations for Mayor.

01-167

Moved by Moshier, supported by Banda that Dave Wyman be elected Mayor of the City of Grayling. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Awiszus, Banda, Hayes, Moshier, Wyman, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried. Dave Wyman was welcomed as the new Mayor and continued the meeting.

Nominations for Mayor Pro-Term. Banda nominated Jerry Hayes for Mayor Pro-Term, supported by Awiszus. Moved by Banda, supported by Wyman to close nominations for Mayor Pro-Term.

01-168

Moved by Banda, supported by Awiszus that Jerry Hayes be elected Mayor Pro-Term, of the City of Grayling. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Banda, Hayes, Moshier, Wyman, Awiszus, Nays: 9, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Public Hearing. None.

Approval of Consent Agenda.

a. Police Department Report for October 2001.

b. 911 Activity Report for October 2001

c. City Election Results

d. IDC Minutes of October 4, 2001

e. Fax regarding Revenue Sharing

f. Letter from City Attorney

01-169

Moved by Banda, supported by Hayes to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, motion carried.

Approval of Regular Agenda.

01-170

Moved by Awiszus, supported by Moshier to approve the Regular Agenda as amended. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

01-171

Moved by Moshier, supported by Banda that the minutes of October 29, 2001 be approved as amended. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Communications to the Council. None.

Old Business.

a. City Hall Update. DKL option with the owner of the Bear Archery property expired on October 31, 2001. Steve Langseth was present and updated Council on the prospect

that the Bear Archery property had been sold. Mr. Moshier would like a list of the different locations that were looked at in determining a location for the new city hall.

b. Keith Kenney resignation from the Grayling Planning Commission.

01-172

Moved by Hayes, supported by Awiszus to accept the resignation of Keith Kenney from the Grayling Planning Commission with regret to write him a letter of appreciation for the time he spent on this commission. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

c. Board and Commission Appointments. Several appointments need to be made before January 2, 2002.

01-173

Moved by Banda, supported by Moshier to re-appoint Jerry Hayes to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3 year term, term to expire January 1, 2005. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

01-174

Moved by Banda, supported by Moshier to appoint Kathy Awiszus, as recommended by Mayor Wyman, to the Grayling Planning Commission as a member from the Council. This is a 3 year term, term to expire January 1, 2005. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

01-175

Moved by Banda, supported by Hayes to appoint Kathy Awiszus to the Parks Committee as a member from the Council. This is a 3 year term, term to expire January 1, 2005. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

c. Grayling City Council Rules.

01-176

Moved by Banda, supported by Hayes to accept the Grayling City Council Rules with meetings to be held at 7:30 P.M. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

New Business.

a. Employee Recognition.

01-177

Moved by Banda, supported by Awiszus to give gift certificates of \$15.00 to the employees of the City for Employee Recognition as has been done in past years. Ayes: 3, Nays: 2 (Hayes & Moshier), Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

b. Plan for Goal Setting. The City Manager would like input from this Council on the goals for the future of Grayling. Council would like to have a meeting in January to discuss goal setting and a 5 year plan for the City.

Citizens who wish to speak.

a. Mr. Gill from the Hospitality House was present to ask Council about placing signs advertising the Hospitality House at the entrances of the City. What would he have to do to make this possible? It was suggested that get go before the Planning Commission for a possible solution.

b. Mrs. Wyman asked Council if citizens would be allowed input in the goal setting for the City of Grayling. Council agreed that we need input and ideas from citizens as well as from the council members. We will have an article in the paper when we have a time and date for this important meeting.

c. Mr. Adkinson from Waste Management was present to ask Council about changing the dumpster ordinance to allow Waste Management to pick up dumpsters earlier than 7 A.M. Much discussion was held with Moshier asking if the police could study the issue. The Chief will report at the next meeting.

Reports from ZBA, Planning Committee, Parks Committee

a. Mr. Hayes and Mr. Moshier gave Council a report of the ZBA meeting held on Monday, November 5, 2001.

b. Ms. Awiszus updated Council on the Parks Committee. She is going to advise the Parks Committee of an idea of an ice skating rink in the city limits.

c. Mr. Lowe gave an update on the Planning Commission.

Reports from Manager & Council Members.

a. The City Manager is looking forward to working with this Council for the next 2 years.

b. The City Manager announced that there would be only 1 council meeting in December due to the holidays.

c. There will be no report from the City Manager this Friday as next week is a short week due to Thanksgiving and he will have a report on Wednesday with agendas for the November 26, 2001 meeting.

d. Mr. Banda was inquiring about the high

school using the library once the new library is in their new building. The City Manager said a representative from the school will be at the next meeting.

e. Mr. Wyman thanked council for electing him Mayor Pro-Term and congratulated Mr. Wyman as the new mayor.

f. Mr. Moshier is happy to be on the Council and looks forward to the next 4 years as a council member.

g. Ms. Awiszus is excited about her election as a council member and hopes to achieve a lot in her 4 year term.

h. Mr. Wyman asked if the Police Contract is done. It has been signed by all parties and in effect.

Announcements. None.

Adjournment.

01-178

Moved by Banda, supported by Hayes that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Kay Ellen King
City Clerk

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Gary Sheldon, a single man of Crawford County, Michigan, Mortgage to Empire National Bank, now known as The Huntington National Bank dated the 24th day of March, A.D. 2000, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Crawford and State of Michigan, on the 10th day of April, A.D. 2000, in Liber 505 of Crawford Records, on page 111, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of \$25,306.99 (twenty-five thousand three hundred six dollars and ninety-nine cents) including interest there on at 10.25% (ten point two five) percent per annum.

And no suit proceedings at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, the 19th day of December, A.D., 2001, at 10:00 a.m. o'clock said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder in Crawford County, Michigan, of the premises described in said mortgage. Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece of land situate in the Township of Grayling, in the County of Crawford and State of Michigan and described as follows to wit:

PARCEL 7: Part of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 21, Town 27 North, Range 3 West, Grayling Township, Crawford County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point located distant South 01 degrees 13 minutes West, along the North & South 1/4 line of said Section 21 a distance of 2650.77 feet and North 89 degrees 44 minutes West, 1303.59 feet and North 01 degrees 06 minutes 35 seconds East, 275.00 feet from the North 1/4 corner of said Section 21, thence continuing North 01 degrees 06 minutes 35 seconds East, 444.19 feet, thence North 74 degrees 15 minutes 11 seconds East, 116.15 feet, thence South 49 degrees 35 minutes 56 seconds East, 250.28 feet, thence South 39 degrees 08 minutes 34 seconds east, 236.72 feet, thence South 74 degrees 15 minutes 11 seconds West, 478.39 feet to the Point of Beginning. ALSO subject to and with right of Ingress and egress over 66 feet wide easement described as follows: A 66 foot wide easement over part of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 21, Town 27 North, Range 3 West, Grayling Township, Crawford County, Michigan. Centerline of said easement described as beginning at a point on the North & South 1/8 line of said Northwest 1/4 of Section 21 located distant North 88 degrees 06 minutes 10 seconds West along the North line of Section 21 a distance of 1308.72 feet and along said 1/8 line South 01

degree 06 minutes 35 seconds West 1020.29 feet from the North 1/4 corner of said Section 21, thence South 24 degrees 35 minutes East, 182.31 feet, thence South 53 degrees 36 minutes East, 224.15 feet to Point "A", thence South 62 degrees 30 minutes East, 98.45 feet, thence South 85 degrees 15 minutes East, 347.41 feet, thence South 73 degrees 51 minutes 37 seconds East, 152.51 feet, thence South 35 degrees 21 minutes 57 seconds East, 252.42 feet, thence South 03 degrees 50 minutes 04 seconds West, 232.80 feet, thence South 06 degrees 27 minutes 43 seconds East 271.75 feet, thence South 33 degrees 21 minutes 48 seconds West, 256.12 feet, thence South 62 degrees 12 minutes 23 seconds West, 203.84 feet, thence North 60 degrees 44 minutes 10 seconds West, 227.15 feet, thence North 39 degrees 08 minutes 34 seconds West, 331.72 feet, thence North 49 degrees 35 minutes 56 seconds West, 250.28 feet, thence North 11 degrees 20 minutes West, 348.58 feet, thence North 40 degrees 09 minutes East, 362.86 feet to the Point of Ending at former mentioned Point "A".

Tax ID: 20-040-44-021-05-020-07

The redemption period shall be one year from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: November 15, 2001
WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO.
L.P.A.

By: Daniel E. Best (P-58501)
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgage
Welman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A.
755 W. Big Beaver Rd., STE. 310
Troy, MI 48064

-15-22-29-6-13

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

DEFAULT has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Robert Wakeley and Marjorie Wakeley, husband and wife, to Option One Mortgage Corp., a California Corporation, mortgage, dated June 25, 2001 and recorded July 3, 2001 in Liber 540, Page 274-283, Crawford County Records. Said mortgage is now held by Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota FKA Norwest Bank Minnesota by assignment dated October 22, 2001 and submitted to and recorded by Crawford County Records. There is claimed to be due on such mortgage the sum of Sixty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Six and 58/100 Dollars (\$63,936.58) including interest at the rate of 10.65% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the statutes of the State of Michigan, notice is hereby given that the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front door of the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on January 9, 2002.

The premises are located in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 7, Block 20,

FEATURES

CROSSWORD

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago December 7, 1978

The Crawford County Sheriff's Dept. reported today that warrants will be issued following the arrests of two adults and a pair of juveniles, suspects in a larceny occurring November 15 at DiPonio Ford. Tires and wheels valued at \$770 were taken in the incident.

One adult and two juveniles were also arrested following a breaking and entering at Grayling High School where two speakers were stolen from the band room. Sheriff's Dept. deputies recovered the stolen speakers on December 2.

Bear Archery takes on a look of "abandonment" as semis haul out equipment, headed for the company's new facility in Gainesville, Florida. Picketers were also busy across the street, removing a trailer that was used over the past two years as the U.A.W. strike headquarters.

Workmen are cleaning up in the aftermath of a fire at a central collection crude oil tank, located six miles south and a mile west of Grayling, which occurred early Saturday morning. Flames reportedly shot 50 to 60 feet into the air. No one was injured in the accident and Lyons Department Volunteer firemen were called upon to put out the blaze.

46 Years Ago December 8, 1955

Former Viking Sets College Score Mark

Marvin Bielski, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bielski of Grayling and former Viking basketball luminary, set a new scoring mark at Northwestern Michigan College last Thursday night as the Traverse City College dumped Benton Harbor Junior College 77 to 67.

Bielski who still holds the top single game scoring mark for the Vikings netted 33 points in last Thursday's game which surpasses the former mark of 28 held jointly by Chuck Taylor and Bielski who equalled that record during last season. Bielski amassed the new mark with 12 field goals and 9 out of 14 free throws attempted.

The New York Central plans on running a weekend train similar to the Timberliner during the week-ends this winter. It has been announced by the General Passenger Agent in Detroit, Stan Fowler, local agent said today.

The train, which could easily be termed "The Snowliner", will be run on an experimental basis for three weekends starting Friday night, January 8th from Detroit. If the first three weekends prove financially successful the railroad will continue to operate the train every weekend right through to the end of February, it was reported.

69 Years Ago December 8, 1932

Printing machinery, just like automobiles and other machines, wears out. That's just what our old Campbell press did with us, after a

service lasting well over a quarter of a century. The old press had done faithful service for its former owner, Dr. Oscar Palmer, for several years, and equally as good for us for over twenty years, up to last year. It had reached a condition that required repairing frequently, and seemed to have a habit of going wrong just when it was most needed. The old press held many fond memories, but it had to go. Now in its place stands a Miehle press. The name means nothing to most of our readers, but to experienced pressmen it means that the Avalanche is now equipped with a press that will not only print our newspaper in a fine manner, but can produce printing that is equal to that done in any printing office on a two form roller press. There are no better presses made except larger sizes of the same type. This is just the press we have always wanted. Someone else's hard luck made it possible for us to buy this one at a bargain.

Earl Gierke, who attends Central State Teachers College at Mt. Pleasant, and is president of the Commercial Club, with two other young men was chosen delegate to attend a two-day conference at Ann Arbor recently. The meeting was of students of Michigan colleges under the direction of the state council of the Y.M.C.A. and the possible outcome of sending the delegate was to determine as to where there is a demand for organization of a Y unit at the college. Earl is one of Grayling's young men who is bringing honor to himself and to Grayling High School from which he graduated with honors.

The grocery store of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tatro, frequently called the

South Side Grocery, is undergoing a round of repairs and improvements. The interior is being all nicely repainted and the shelving and counters arranged more conveniently.

A.J. Nelson has improved his property by building a fine new summer porch in the upstairs of his home, and he now has under construction a double garage.

92 Years Ago December 9, 1909

The "beautiful" began falling again Tuesday morning and in the afternoon the wagons were all changed for sleighs. It now looks as though we might have our usual Christmas sleighing.

J.W. Sorenson has sold his confectionary and tobacco business to Olaf Sorenson who will continue to do business at the same old stand.

Last Thursday, Dr. S. Insley was called to the residence of William Feldhauser in Maple Forest, where he performed an operation.

The announcement last week of the consolidation of the two papers at Gaylord is completed by the sale by the editor, H.C. McKinley, of the Herald, to Glen B. Miner of the Times, who assumes the ownership and editor's chair of both. While we regret the retirement of Mr. McKinley from the editorial field where we have so long known him, we have been proud to name him as a friend. Mr. McKinley taught a district school in Crawford County and ran the Avalanche for one year for Salling Hanson & Co., who sold the paper then to Dr. O. Palmer, who has run it ever since.

ACROSS

1. Fraternity symbol
4. Ornamental jug
8. Questioning cry
11. Piece
13. Censure
14. Coed's abode
15. Congressman Sonny
16. Lisa Marie's dad
17. Sheridan and Blyth
18. Our: Fr.
20. Dirges
22. "Lang" preceder
24. List shortener
25. Brussels' land
28. Medicine bottle
31. Clinton health honcho Magaziner
32. Paleo's opposite
33. Became diffused
35. Dashiell heroine
37. Burstyn of The Exorcist
39. Fill the piggybank
40. Home of the EWings
42. Hebrew priest
43. CSA member
44. Cannon of Deathtrap
45. Give off
48. Numskull
51. Scrapes by
52. Removes for ransom
55. Forgettable Ford
58. Half: prefix
59. Venomous snake
61. Analysts' foci

DOWN

1. Ale place
2. Party to
3. Boy, in Madrid
4. Cloth measure
5. Billow
6. Author Zola
7. Turn the clocks back
8. Strop
9. Ornamental vases
10. "Pinafore"
12. Add
13. Direct routes
14. Some newspapers
19. Carpet
21. Presented
23. Holmgang
25. Expansive
26. Premature
27. Some spies
29. Severed
30. Afternoon reception
31. Hoosier St.
33. Milky Way's kin
34. Society girl, informally

63. _____ Betrayed (Wayne film)
64. Southern Indians
65. Rani's wear
66. _____ die!
67. Throne
68. Exported insecticide: abbr.
36. Arabian Nights character
38. "Waiting For The Robert _____"
41. Soon
46. Carpet color for a VIP
47. Daffy had trouble with these
49. Tennis trophy name
50. Voice a view
52. _____ Sabe
53. Somali supermodel
54. Pound operators: abbr.
56. Hoople's expletive
57. Plushbottom, e.g.
58. Easter meat
60. Sup
62. Take a load off

ANSWERS IN CLASSIFIEDS

HOROSCOPES

For the week of December 6th thru December 12th

ARIES

(Mar. 21 - April 20)

Difficulties with business or personal relationships are likely. You will be involved in deceptive circumstances and may find that situations are not as they appear. Difficulties with peers will be unnerving. Be careful when using machinery or electrical equipment. Don't expect your friends to understand your situation. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday

TAURUS

(Apr. 21 - May 21)

Love and romance are just waiting to unfold. You'll meet new mates through friends or while attending talks that relate to a creative hobby you are interested in. Love is growing; infatuations are confusing you. You have a choice to make regarding who you want to get intimate with. Be careful not to hurt anyone's feelings. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)

Presentation of your ideas for work efficiency will be well received. You will find that coworkers will help you fight for better working conditions. Emotional upset will be hard to avoid if you haven't spent enough time with your mate. Your intuitive awareness should help you clue in to what you must do to rectify the problem. Your lucky day this week will be Friday

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)

Don't bother trying to hide something from your mate. You are best to be honest and clear the air. If you feel there is a chance of violence, have a friend accompany you. Romantic opportunities will heighten your day. Travel, lectures, and social gatherings will enhance your popularity. New friendships look promising and lasting. Your lucky day this week will be Friday

LEO

(July 23 - Aug. 22)

Romantic encounters with colleagues can develop. Be aware of the underhandedness of jealous peers. Concentrate on moneymaking deals and securing your position. You will be emotional about changes that are going on around you. Acceptance will be the key to letting go. You need to move into a new level of life. Changes are necessary. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 - Sept. 23)

Get out and do things that you enjoy. All work and no play isn't good for your emotional well-being. Take the time to get to know new acquaintances better. You should look into moving if a position of interest comes up in a different geographical location. Not everyone you live with will be thrilled, but the prospects look good. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday

LIBRA

(Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

You can make positive improvements to your home if you get the family's help and make everyone feel that they've contributed. Don't get dragged into office politics. A female member of your family will cause problems. Ignore this inexcusable behavior and carry on with your own plans. You have to stop trying to please everyone else. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

You need to be careful what you consume. Poor dietary habits will result in minor health problems. Get back to basics and stop those overindulgent habits you've picked up. You'll be in an awkward position if you're in the middle of a dispute. Meddling will not prove beneficial. You are likely to lose the friend you thought you were helping. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

Don't get into conflicts with those who are in a position to ruin your reputation. Listen and be diplomatic in your approach to solving existing problems. Social events will lead to new romantic connections. Don't jump too quickly; take your time. If they really care, they won't rush you. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

You need to get in touch with yourself. Follow through on your dreams; look into doing things that have always interested you. Let your creative juices flow. Children will make a difference to your outlook. You can achieve anything that you set your mind to. Your lucky day this week will be Monday

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Friends and relatives will introduce you to new and unusual activities. You will be captivated by someone you meet who has a completely different background. Don't let your partner get the better of you. Stay calm and work on your own projects. If you appear to be a know-it-all you'll meet with opposition. Your lucky day this week will be Friday

PISCES

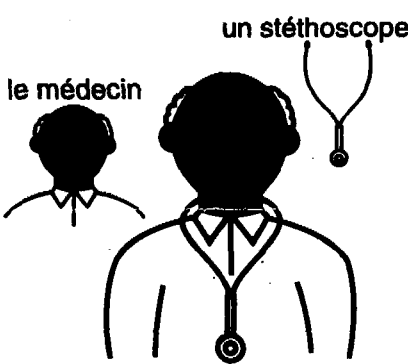
(Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)

A friend or coworker may be jealous. Don't tell anyone secrets that you don't want revealed. Underhandedness is evident and you must be aware that someone is looking for an opportunity to make you look bad. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday

FOR ENTERTAINMENT ONLY!

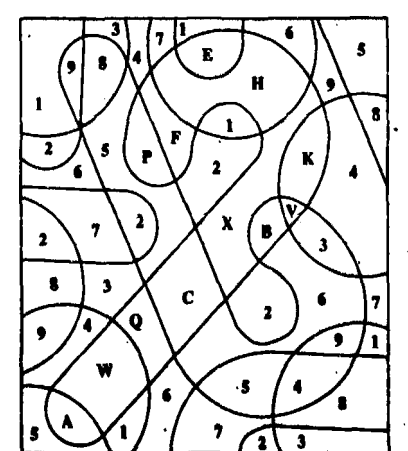


Learn Some French



The doctor has a stethoscope.
Le médecin a un stéthoscope.

HIDDEN PICTURE



Color in each space that contains a letter.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Tomato Citrus Marinated Olives

- 4 oz. oil-packed sundried tomatoes, drained
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 can Black Ripe Olives, drained
- 1 1/2 tbsp. balsamic vinegar

- 1 tbsp. thyme, chopped
- 1 tsp. orange zest
- 1/4 tsp. red pepper flakes
- 1 tbsp. rosemary, chopped
- Chop tomatoes and mix with garlic and salt in a large mixing bowl. Add olives, balsamic vinegar, orange zest, rosemary, thyme and red pepper flakes.
- Marinate for at least 3 hours before serving.
- Serves: 6

Adopt a Pet



This shepherd mix female may look like she is a happy dog, but she is not. She does not want to be at the animal shelter and wishes her family would come for her. She was a stray from Jones Lake Road and is a sweet old lady that just wants to be loved. She needs to be lying on a rug in her home. Please call 348-4117 for more information or stop by to claim or adopt this old gal.

Another session of "Pet Photos with Santa" will take place at the Otsego Township Hall in Waters on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 12 noon to 5 p.m. All proceeds go the help pay daily operating expenses. Volunteers will also be selling a variety of dog and cat related gifts and greeting cards. Call the Shelter for more information or e-mail to: animal_director@yahoo.com. The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is a non-profit organization and welcomes donations. Mail check or money order to: ASCC, P.O. Box 384, Grayling, MI 49738. Our Glen's number is #34024. Sign up today!

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is located at 508 1/2 Huron Street (M-72 East) Between the Road Commission and the Eagles Hall
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sun. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
After hour appointments available.

Last Week		Extended Forecast				
		(Courtesy of the U.S. Excite Weather)				
Date	H L Snow Rain	Weather	High	Low	High	Low
11/28	41 28	0.21				
11/29	32 28	1 0.18				
11/30	37 22	0.19				
12/1	44 37	0.31				
12/2	44 33	0.02				
12/3	44 33					
12/4	56 30					
			Rain	Showers	Showers	Scattered Snow Showers

ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Classifieds must be paid for in advance
Display Advertising Rate - \$6.00 per column inch
Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday
Classifieds by the word rate - \$4.20 for 15 words or less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:
www.townnews.com/avalanche/
Classified by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday

Crawford County Avalanche

1. Real Estate

H.U.D. APPROVED two, three, and four bedroom homes. Immediate occupancy, financing not a problem. Call 989-344-8810 or toll free 866-615-9511. (3/8/01t/f/1)

1. Real Estate

KALKASKA 320 acre hunt club. Fully wooded with Spruce, Cedar, Poplar, some hardwoods. Deer, bear, bobcat, turkey, rabbit and partridge country! Six year old 1,600 sq. ft. four bedroom, two bath, deer camp, sleeps 16. Easy drive to Traverse City, golf and skiing. Partnership dissolving, just \$350,000. Call LeSage at Gary Lillie & Associates Realtors. 800-345-6694 or 734-476-0598. To view go to www.garylillie.com (-22-29-6/1)

JUST LISTED FOR LEASE 685 Sq. Ft. Office Space. Three offices, reception area and restroom. Located in the Grayling Industrial Park. 2307 DuPont, Grayling, Michigan. \$685 per month, includes utilities. Contact Jon at 231-935-2684. (-6-13-20-27/1)

HOME FOR SALE Three bedroom, one bath on 2.5 acres with cabin on property. Knotty Pine interior, new carpet and linoleum. \$47,000. 989-348-6453. (-29-6/1)

SALE BY OWNER COMMERCIAL BUILDING on I-75 Bus. Loop, 1750 sq. ft., HVAC, 220/3 phase, 2 restrooms. Presently a restaurant. Call 517-422-4681

1. Real Estate

FOR SALE To be moved: 26' x 45' three bedroom 1 1/2 bath ranch home. \$12,000 to Crawl, \$15,000 to basement. Price includes home and move to your foundation house moving by Van Duinen. 989-422-3330 (-29-6-13-20/1)

VACANT WOODED LAND Land Contract Terms \$7,500. 989-348-7355. (11/8/01t/f/1)

GOLF COURSE BUILDING LOTS for sale. All lots are one to two acres. \$29,000 to \$49,000. Skyline Ski and Country Club. 989-275-5445 (9/27/01t/f/1)

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN PROPERTIES www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99t/f/1)

2. For Rent

GRAYLING Now accepting applications for Arbor Court Apartments. All two bedroom. Rent based on 30% of adjusted income. For more information or application call Sande at 989-366-4475 or call Richards Management, Inc. toll free 1-888-576-6468, TDD# 800-649-3777. Barrier free units available. Equal Housing Opportunity. (5/31/01t/f/2)

2. For Rent

THREE BEDROOM, TWO BATH mobile home for rent in Grayling Mobile Estates. Natural gas, cable TV and well maintained. Section 8 accepted. References required. \$475 per month. Call Ron at 989-348-6761. (11/29/01t/f/2)

TWO AND THREE BEDROOM cabins for rent. Very clean, quiet neighborhood 300 ft. from Lake Margrethe with view and full lake privileges and access. Fully furnished with garbage removal, snow plowing heat and electric included. Easy access with plowed road near National Guard Base. \$100 and \$125 per week with first/last and deposit. Long term leases preferred. Non drinkers, partiers, kids or pets. References and employment proof. Contact 989-348-2318. (-6/2)

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME for rent. No pets. Inquire at office at Timberly Village Mobile Home Park. Old 27 North. (7/12/01t/f/2)

NEAT AND CLEAN two bedroom, one bath with garage. West side Higgins Lake, long term only, credit report obtained. \$500 a month, first and last months rent. 989-939-8965. (-29-6/2)

2. For Rent

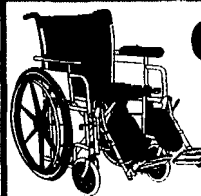
TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME No pets. \$390 a month plus deposit. Call 989-348-7893. (-6-13/2)

TWO BEDROOM HOME for rent on AuSable mainstream. \$600 a month plus security deposit. 989-348-7893. (-6-13/2)

2. For Rent

WELL MAINTAINED ONE BEDROOM duplex, new carpet, drywall, new bathroom, nice neighbors, adult non-smoking. \$335 310B Rolla Street. 989-348-2178. (12/6/01t/f/2)

2. For Rent



Cobble Creek I & II Apartments

is now taking applications for our spacious 1 & 2 bedroom apartment homes. Rent is based on 30% of Income. Our office is located at 140 Cobble Creek Dr. Apt #12, our hours are Monday thru Friday, 9am to 2pm or you can call (989)348-3150 to schedule an appointment.
TDD# 1-800-760-1997

1. Real Estate

RE/MAX[®] OF GRAYLING

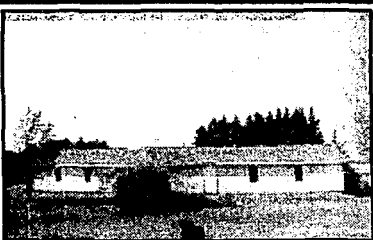


CRAIG HINKLE
Broker/Owner
State Licensed Appraiser



CHARLENE SCHEER
Broker/Owner
Valuation Specialist
CRB GR CDR ABR

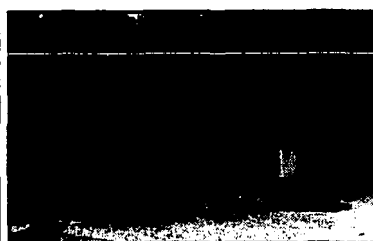
EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED



FOR SALE/LEASE. NEW VINYL EXTERIOR SIDING. Ideal exposure just outside city limits 310' Frontage on North Down River Road. Interior recently renovated for Child Care Business. Roof, electrical, kitchen, septic updated. 1,500 s.f. building to Daycare specifications. 3 1/2 baths, full kitchen. CH-1347 \$75,000



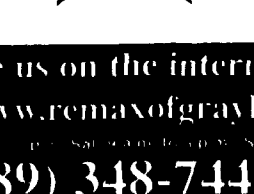
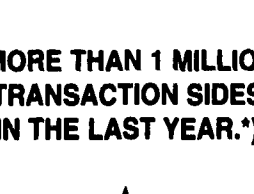
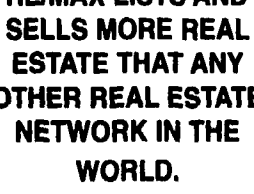
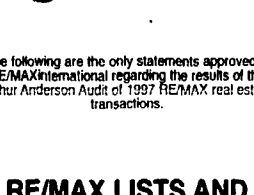
ATTENTION HORSE LOVERS!! Beautiful Mini Farm situated on 6 acres of Hard Woods. Private setting with State Land across road. 2,080 s.f. home with 3 B/R, 2 3/4 baths. Full finished basement w/ 1 B/R, family room, utility, and bath with sauna and whirlpool. Home has cathedral ceiling in living room, built-in entertainment center, 2 skylights, knotty pine T&G, pegged pine flooring in kitchen. 30x40 pole barn, 20x30 storage building, 3 horse corrals. Gravel driveway, attached garage is insulated, underground irrigation, frost-free hydrant next to pole barn, home wired for generator. A MUST SEE!! \$189,900 CH-1336



HARDWOODS! HARDWOODS! 28X30 Full log "Shell". 6 Block Crawl Space (Room for furnace and water heater). Finished exterior, stain, windows and doors. 6/12 pitch, designed for vaulted ceiling in kitchen, dining, and living rooms. No well or septic. Walk to State Land, trails, and AuSable River. CH-1367 \$55,000



12TH FAIRWAY AT FOX RUN GOLF COURSE Beautiful half log home on Fox Run Golf Course. 2,240 s.f., 3 B/R, 2 baths, knotty pine ceilings and walls throughout, cathedral ceiling in living room, open staircase, fieldstone fireplace, walk-in closets. Landscaping with sprinkling system. High efficiency heating system with central air. Stove, Ref., Dishwasher, and garbage disposal. Land Contract Terms. CH-1368 \$189,900



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Associate Realtor



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Sales Associate



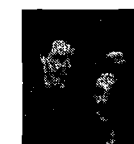
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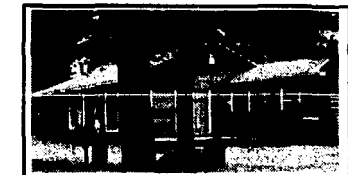
68' on Manistee River Cabin offering great year-round access with state land across the road. Home is brand new, has just been completed, and is ready to move into. Includes 4 ceiling fans, new carpet, a doorwall, furnace, and a small deck on the river side. Also includes a 12 x 12 shed. \$1900 \$119,000



3 Bedroom home in Private Setting Close to town, private road in private subdivision. Nicely wooded and secluded. Ready for a family and room to grow. Minutes away from town and only blocks away from the Lewiston Grade Road for snowmobiling. 4 wheeling and state land. \$13280 \$129,900



Custom built home on a beautiful 10 acres of mixed hardwoods. State land across the road on 2 acres. Home offers many amenities including: 3 B/R with a master suite that has a gas fireplace, walk-in closet, security, double shower, and a private office that can be used from the rest of the home. The living area offers an open floor plan with vaulted ceiling in the living room and a brick fireplace, an island kitchen, custom paint and fully furnished with many unique items. Very private and secluded and still located on a county maintained/paved road. \$13007 \$139,800



Home on "Holy Waters" 321' of "Prime Riverfront Property" on the AuSable River offers great views, private, excellent wading water in front of the home. State land just to the east of Keystone - "Belter Hurry, this one won't last long". \$14521 \$228,000



Home with Lakes of the North Amenities this spacious home offers all the amenities available through Lakes of the North. Private Setting, 3 B/R, Hubb Heat, large stone fireplace and oversized rooms are just a few features. \$13164 \$129,900



Charming Home & Mobile Two or possibly 3 bedroom home on a double lot with close river access. Blacktop drive, heated detached garage, 24x24 carport for RV storage. Home is decorated in warm neutral tones with attention to quality. Oak & recessed lighting, custom kitchen, vinyl windows. 1200 sq. mobile home also on property currently being used as a rental with good income. 10x16 deck and more! \$13046 \$95,000



Immaculate Home in Sherwood Forest 3 bedroom home on a great corner lot. Amenities include 2 car attached garage, storage shed new in 2001, 8 x 10 3 season room with skylights. This attractive home is just 10 years old and ready for a new family. \$14130 \$115,000



Hard to Find Cub Lake Frontage Immaculate home offers walk-out basement, large garage, paved driveway, fireplace, deck and dock, newer roof, and appliances. Located near state land and trails. Great location! \$14360 \$189,900



Like New Modular Home This 3 bedroom home was set on the property in 1999. Neat and clean, with fireplace, bay window, double pane windows, 640 acres of state land across the road, and less than 1 mile from the AuSable River. \$13350 \$77,900

Ask about our home warranty programs, we have several to choose from to cover both buyers and sellers!

VIKING VILLAGE APARTMENTS is now accepting applications for immediate occupancy, as well as waiting list positions. Very nice, two bedroom, two bath apartments with an attached garage and central air conditioning in a private secluded setting. Lease includes appliances, weekly garbage pickup, snow removal, and lawn care. Paved street, natural gas. Credit application required. No children. No pets. Inquire at Farm Bureau Insurance, Herb Olson. 989-348-9456. (-29-6-13-20/2)

EFFICIENCY CABIN FOR RENT \$310 per month, \$310 security deposit, \$50 cleaning fee, utilities included. Call 989-348-5124. (-6/2)

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT in town. \$375 plus deposit and references. 989-348-2473. (-29-6/2)

LARGE ONE BEDROOM in town, very clean. References and deposit required. 989-348-6552. (-29-6/3)

TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT in town. \$325 per month plus utilities. Call 989-732-3828. (-6-13-20/2)

THREE BEDROOM HOUSE in town, full basement, lots of storage. Credit references required. Call 989-732-3828. (-6-13-20/2)

CLEAN TWO BEDROOM HOUSE for rent. Fenced in back yard, heated attached garage, fireplace and natural gas heat. No pets. \$475 first months rent plus \$650 deposit and utilities. 989-344-2803 evenings. (-29-6/2)

THREE BEDROOM, ONE BATH house for rent 5 1/2 miles out of Grayling. Must have references (no pets) \$450 plus security deposit. 989-348-6453. (-6/2)

TWO BEDROOM HOUSE with garage seven miles east of town. \$400 a month plus deposit and references. 989-344-2549. (-29-6/2)

BEDROOM FOR RENT Enjoy peaceful solitude and country living in this AuSable River home, surrounded by woods and wildlife. Super fly fishing 25 feet from the back door, \$300 month. All utilities are free including kitchen, Cable TV, telephone, library, laundry and more. 989-348-2083. (-29-6/2)

ONE BEDROOM DUPLEX APARTMENT in Roscommon. In town, walking distance to Glens, post office, CRAF Center. \$300 per month plus deposit and utilities. Northwood Rentals. 989-344-8787. (-6-13/2)

THREE BEDROOM MOBILE HOME Grayling Mobile Estates. \$400 per month plus security deposit. No pets. 989-348-8659 evenings or leave message. (11/29/01tf/2)

SMALL, NEWLY REMODELED, includes stove, refrigerator, heat and electric. No pets. References, security deposit, \$490 a month. 989-821-9620. (-6-13/2)

SMALL TWO BEDROOM West of town. Heat and appliances included. No pets, non-smoking. \$300 deposit. \$465 per month. 989-348-6938. (10/18/01tf/2)

NICE, ONE BEDROOM HOUSE Great for one or two people. AuSable River access. Includes water, lawn maintenance and snow plowing. No pets. 101D State. \$400 per month, \$400 deposit. Call 989-348-4464. (-6/2)

KITCHENNETTES FOR RENT Includes all utilities, no deposit, cable TV, refrigerator, stove, phone. Western Trails Motel. 989-348-7681. (-29-6-13/2)

TRUCK DRIVER Full-time local for AJD Forest Products, Grayling. Class A CDL License. Experience a plus. Drug-Free workplace. Benefit package includes Blue Cross Blue Shield, Profit Sharing, and 401k. Apply in person between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Located at 4440 Four Mile Road, east of I-75. Or telephone Human Resources at 989-348-5412, extension 137 for an application by mail. (-6/3)

STAY HOME & work online. Flexibility. \$500-\$7,000/mo. in your spare time. Step-by-step system. Complete training. Free booklet. 1-888-211-8885. www.freedomrally.com (-6-13-20/3)

THE CRAWFORD AuSable School District is accepting applications for Substitute Teachers. The requirements are ninety credits or a bachelor degree from an accredited four-year college or university. Apply at the Board of Education office, 403 E. Michigan Avenue. (-6-13/3)

PART TIME APARTMENT MANAGER, Grayling area, live on property. Apply in person at Houghton Heights Manor Apartments, 300 Byron St., Houghton Lake. 989-422-5427. (-6-13/3)

YOUTH SPECIALIST Nokomis Challenge Center. Front line staff working with male and female delinquents, on-call, varied shifts. Must pass physical fitness assessment. Minimum two years of college required. Civil Service position. Please contact Deb Jones 989-366-5368. (-29-6/3)

FRANKENMUTH FUNDRAISING CORP. is looking for a full time salesperson, for the Northern part of Michigan and Upper Peninsula. Will train new person in sales. Please fax resume and salary needs to Frankenmuth Fundraising Corp. 1-989-652-0200, or mail to 320 Heinlein Strasse, Frankenmuth, MI 48734. Attention: Becky. (-6-13/3)

GET IN THE Fast Lane. Covenant Transportation is looking for student drivers, no CDL? No problem!!! Training available by Calling 1-800-380-0610. (-6-13-20-27/3)

THE GRAYLING RECREATION AUTHORITY is accepting applications for winter employees at Hanson Hills Winter Sports Park including maintenance crew members on all shifts, snack bar employees, ski and snow board instructors, rental shop technicians, lift operators, a weekend receptionist and cross country lodge personnel. Interested persons may apply at Hanson Hills Winter Sports Park office at 7601 Old Lake Rd., or send your resume to GRA, PO Box 361, Grayling, MI 49738. (-6-13/3)

RN OR LPN Day shift position open at Grayling Nursing Centre. we offer excellent wages and benefits. Join our team of care givers providing personal and professional care. Apply today: 331 Meadows Dr., Grayling, Michigan. (-29-6/3)

3. Employment

NEED A JOB? NEED AN EMPLOYEE?

Visit the One-Stop Service Center

- Representatives from Employment Services, Veteran's services and Michigan Rehabilitation Services
- Educational and training resources
- FREE weekly workshops on resumes, cover letters, interviewing and job search skills
- Post your resume
- Look through 175,000 job openings
- Michigan's largest applicant pool
- Job Search Assistance
- For more information, stop by or call



MICHIGAN WORKS!

Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego, and Presque Isle Counties
1-800-285-WORKS
www.TalentFreeway.org
ADA/EEO Auxiliary Aids Available
Michigan Relay Center 1-800-649-3777

ARE YOU HAVING PROBLEMS PAYING YOUR RENT?

IF YOUR INCOME IS BELOW THE LISTED AMOUNTS, WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU:

1. 15,600
2. 17,800
3. 20,050
4. 22,250
5. 24,050
6. 25,800

Phone (989) 348-9314 for information regarding our Section 8 Voucher Program, or stop by Grayling Housing Commission at 308 Lawndale, Grayling to request an application.

3. Employment

Interim Coordinator of Tutorial Services: Kirtland Community College seeks an interim coordinator of tutorial services to coordinate the tutoring and supplemental instruction programs for 18 weeks during the Winter, 2002 semester on a full-time basis. Bachelor's degree (preferably with developmental education and/or English composition) and three years of experience in teaching or working with developmental students required. This is a temporary contractual position with an hourly wage range of \$11.49-\$16.66. Applications will be accepted until December 19, 2001. Send cover letter, resume, and three letters of reference, and unofficial transcripts to Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon Michigan, 48653, (989) 275-5000. Kirtland Community College is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. Visit our web site at <http://kirtland.cc.mi.us> for a complete position description.

1. Real Estate

Go With The Winning Team!



Randy Thompson
Broker / Owner



Connie Winans
Associate Broker



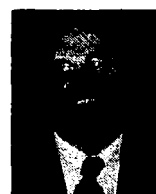
Scott Hanson
Sales Agent



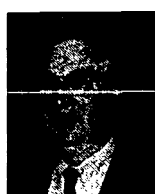
Bob Pollack
Sales Agent



Chelle Warnara
Sales Agent



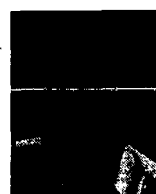
Randall Hartley
Sales Agent



Jerry Gosnell
Associate Broker



Rachel Anderson
Sales Agent



Allen Secord
Sales Associate

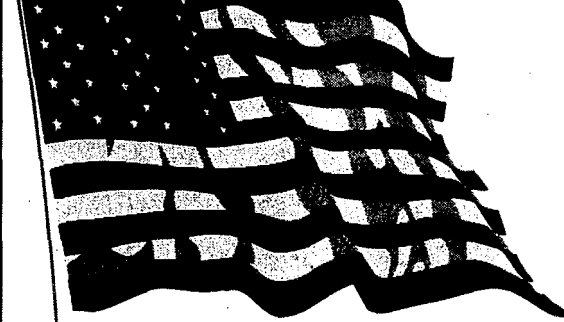
Special Feature!



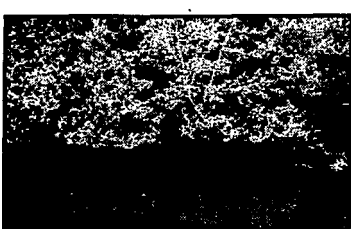
Mobile features fireplace, hot tub room, extensive decking, and mobile and decking are handicap accessible. Nice located with the mainstream of the AuSable located just 1/2 mile north of the property, and near state land and Snowmobile Trails. #4883 \$37,000

EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED.

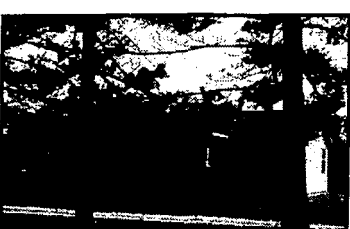
Proud To Be American!



REALTY
SERVICES



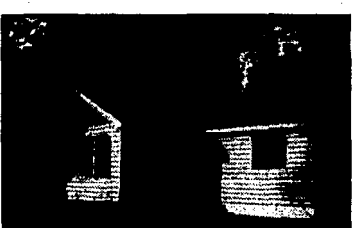
A "Rare Gem"! 206' of Frontage of the AuSable River "Holy Waters". Property offers seclusion and frontage on one of the world's most famous fly fishing trout streams. 516 Sq. Ft. 2 Br. 1 Ba. Cabin. #4841 \$164,500



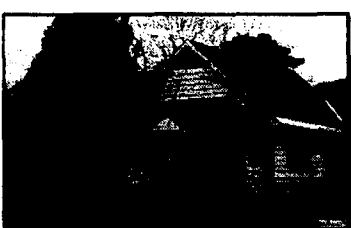
Beautiful 3 Bedroom Home on 2.5 acres featuring 1,456 sq. ft. of living space. This home offers a split floor plan, 6 block crawl space, large garage with a second story for storage or a great guest room. #4846 \$95,500



This exquisite Victorian home is in excellent condition with much of the original charm of the early 1900's. Modern convenience has been tastefully blended with the addition of maintenance free vinyl siding, a large new kitchen, completely finished attic, and many, many additional features. #4739 \$264,500



3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Stunning Home on 2 Acres - Large, spacious rooms; master suite w/luxury master bath; solid oak doors & closet doors; beautiful sunroom; 2-Car attached garage w/2 finished, heated rooms; landscaped grounds & pond! #4868 \$147,900



Nice 3 bedroom home on corner lot in the City of Grayling. All appliances included. Perfect income property. Bath all new in 2001, New carpet in L.R., D.R., Kitchen, Bath, and 1 Bedroom. #4884 \$59,500



20 ACRES! Close to town! This is in great condition with hardwood floors, vaulted log beam ceiling, loft and no bath; just what you have been looking for! You'll be pleasantly surprised! Location, Location...only 1/2 mile from the AuSable River. #4826 \$70,000



Full Basement w/Brick Fireplace Deeded easement to Manistee River! Home has 3 bedrooms, with the third being unfinished and located in the basement. 2 car garage. #4729 \$63,500



WELL CARED FOR OLDER HOME INCLUDES: 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, mural stone fireplace, beautiful knotty pine cabinets, wood stove, full basement. Property features: gardens, single garage, wood shed, magnificent views - all on a paved, county maintained road! #4876 \$74,900



3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH LOG HOME has striking knotty pine interior; hardwood floors; large loft; spacious, open floor plan; French doors from living room & master bedroom to wrap-around cedar deck; full, finished, walkout basement; landscaping; deeded access to Moon Lake includes lake access, pool, beach, and park! #4867 \$135,000



Near Lake Margrethe - Clean 3 bedroom 2 bath home with vaulted ceilings in living room, nicely landscaped, wrap-around deck and patio. Close to public access. #4863 \$75,000



Office Complex Investment Opportunity
Property includes two office buildings and a pole barn with extensive frontage on West M-72 Hwy. Great exposure & signage and shows an excellent cash flow for investor or user. Shown by appointment only; Marketing Package upon request. Call Don (989) 348-7966



Don F. Bowers
Commercial
Investment
Specialist



RIVER COUNTRY REAL ESTATE, INC
2375 South I-75 Business Loop (Next to K-Mart) • Grayling, Michigan 49738
www.century21grayling.com



Quality Service Award
Winning Office
1993-1995-1997
1998-1999-2000

Office 348-5474
Fax 348-4420

3. Employment

HOMEWORKERS NEEDED \$635 weekly processing mail. Easy! No experience needed. Call 1-800-440-1570, Ext. 5055, 24 hrs. (-8-15-22-29-6/3)

LIVE IN CAREGIVER for elderly woman, Grayling area. Call 989-348-5741 (LR12/13/01/3)

KIRTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE is seeking language tutors for French and German courses beginning January 18, 2002. Teaching experience is not required. Only native speakers will be considered. For further information, call Tatyana Puchkova at 989-275-5000, ext. 394. (LR1/10/02/3)

KING NURSING CENTRE is accepting applications for RN's and LPN's - all shifts. We offer a great benefit package and 401K. If you're looking for a job that has many rewards, come talk to us at 2280 Tower Hill Rd., Houghton Lake, or call 989-422-5153. (-6-13/3)

AAA GREETING CARD ROUTE 50 Top Stores (all local). \$700 weekly. Free Info. 800-734-5064. (-6/3)

HELP WANTED Looking for person to assist individual in their home with daily living in the St. Helen area. 24-32 hours during the week (M-F). Experience preferable. 989-732-6374. (-6/3)

SURGICAL INVENTORY MANAGER Fast paced surgical implant company needs full time dependable person to manage inventory and service hospital in northern Michigan area. Must be highly organized, detail oriented, able to work independently, have a good driving record and enjoy interacting with customers O.R. and/or orthopedic experience a plus. Full benefit package. For more information call 1-800-977-1223, extension 7. Equal Opportunity Employer. (-6/3)

3. Employment

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Coldwell Banker
Cornell Realty

Are you thinking about a career in real estate? As a COLDWELL BANKER Sales Associate, your income potential is only limited by your desire to work hard to achieve your goals. If you are committed to being successful, we will help you make it happen.

Call Laurie Jamison today for a confidential interview at 348-6481 or pager at 253-0458

Roscommon County Part-time 911 Dispatcher

Responsible individual to respond to emergency calls for assistance from the public with accurate dispatch of police, fire and emergency medical personnel. Requires a high school diploma or G.E.D. with the ability to type 30 wpm. Familiarity with computer systems desired. 2001 base salary \$19,947.20. Position may advance to full-time.

Resumes may be mailed to Roscommon County Central Dispatch at 111 S. 2nd Street, P.O. Box 87, Roscommon, MI 48653, or you may come in and fill out an application. Resumes and applications will be accepted until December 13, 2001.

TRANSPORTERS to transport youth and families for the Eagle Village Foster Care Program. Must have High School diploma or GED, valid Michigan driver's license, and good driving record. Apply in person or send resume to Eagle Village, Inc., 4507 170th Ave., Hersey, MI 49639. Attention: Human Resources, Fax: 231-832-1729 or e-mail to kfall@eaglevillage.org EEOC

Part-time Auxiliary Service Worker: Kirtland Community College seeks a part-time auxiliary service worker, approximately 20-32 hours per week, to assist with the operation of the college bookstore. May also assist in the operation of the college food service. High school diploma, 1-3 years related work experience, and ability to perform physical tasks such as moving and lifting up to 30 lbs. required. Hourly pay rate of \$8.48-\$11.45; limited fringe benefit package. Applications will be accepted until December 19, 2001. Send cover letter, resume, and three letters of reference to Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, Michigan 48653, (989) 275-5000. Kirtland Community College is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. Visit our web site at <http://www.kirtland.cc.mi.us>

3. Employment

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST Medical Lab Technician Mercy Hospital Grayling is seeking a person for a full-time position in our laboratory. We are looking for Medical Technologist (Bachelor's Degree) or a Medical Lab Technician (Associates Degree), for a variable position on afternoons and nights. Some relevant experience and computer skills are preferred. We offer competitive wages and an excellent fringe benefit package including a \$2 per hour mid-night shift differential. Qualified persons please contact: Mercy Hospital Human Resources, 1100 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738. Phone 989-348-0528. Fax 989-348-0485. E-mail feldmaa@trinity-health.org (-29-6/3)

REGISTERED NURSE - HOUSE SUPERVISOR Mercy Hospital is looking for a Clinical Nursing supervisor who will be responsible for patient care activities in the absence of clinical Directors. The successful candidate will have a current Michigan RN license BSN preferred and a minimum of 3-5 years nursing experience in a supervisory or leadership role preferred. We offer excellent fringe benefits and competitive wages. If you are this exceptional nurse who wants to move to the next level in your professional development and provide leadership to a close knit team of caring health providers please contact: Human Resources, Mercy Hospital, 1100 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738. Phone 989-348-0528. Fax 989-348-0485. E-mail feldmaa@trinity-health.org (-29-6/3)

F-T SALES SERVICE POSITION for insurance office. Computer skills required. Send resume to Personnel, P.O. Box 544, Grayling, MI 49738. (-29-6/3)

3. Employment

COMPASSIONATE CARE HOME HEALTH SERVICES, INC. is now hiring part-time RN's, LPN's, For in-home services in the surrounding areas of Orsego-Crawford-Roscommon Counties

If you can prove dependability, compassion and an excellent work history, please call today.

Join a company with a superior reputation for a quality, caring staff. Wages discussed at interview only. Schedule your local interview with Arlene toll free at 866-705-8844 (Gaylord) or 877-821-2210 (Roscommon)

3. Employment

ACT NOW! Attention: Are you caring what you're worth? \$1,500 PT - \$7,200 F/T. Free local training. \$5 Start up Bonus! Free info: Call Teri at 888-707-5342 or visit www.TheDreamSuite.com (-29-6-13-20/3)

THE GRAYLING Family Practice Clinic is accepting applications for Nurses or Certified Medical Assistants. Send resume to 1010 N. Down River Rd. W., Grayling, MI 49738, or stop in and fill out an application. If you have any questions, please call 989-344-3312. (-6-13/3)

FULL-TIME PHARMACIST position in acute care, newly built, state-of-the-art facility in beautiful northern Michigan. Current Michigan licensure or eligibility for licensure by the Michigan Board of Pharmacy required. Previous experience in hospital pharmacy preferred. We offer a comprehensive wage and benefit package. If qualified and interested, please send a resume to: Janet Norton, Human Resources Manager, West Branch Regional Medical Center, Department 2, 2463 S. M-30, West Branch, MI 48661. (-22-29-6-13/3)

CODER PART-TIME Associates degree (A.A.), Accredited Record Technician (ART) with the American Health Information Management Association preferred or a minimum of two years experience in ICD-9-CM and CPT-4 coding under PPS and DRG required. If qualified, please send resume to Janet Norton, Human Resources Manager, Dept. 2, West Branch Regional Medical Center, 2463 S. M-30, West Branch, MI 48661. (-6-13/3)

4. Services Offered

AT CROSS ROADS CONSTRUCTION We renovate and customize homes. Fully licensed and insured, we create the highest market value for your home. Whether it's a total restoration or small repair, our employees are experts, delivering safe and professional service. For the people of Crawford County and surrounding area. Please call 989-344-0238 today for a free estimate. (3/22/01tf/4)

HOUSECLEANING Commercial, residential, have references. 989-348-8216. (-29-6-13-20/4)

HOME REPAIRS YARD WORK Snow removal from roof tops and properties. Reasonable rates. 989-348-1643. (-29-6-13-20/4)

4. Services Offered

DRIVERS TRAINING and Road Testing is offered by the Grayling Drivers Training School. Register now for the January 21, 2002 class. Contact Howard Lehti 989-348-8838. (LR1/17/02/4)

TOM'S POLE BUILDINGS Free quotes on all size buildings. Featuring Ultra 2000 siding & roofing. 1-800-541-3974. (9/20/01tf/4)

5. For Sale

REMODELING SALE 54" round antique gate leg dining room table with five leaves. Oak with dark finish. \$480 or best. Set of four chairs, need minor repair. \$40. 4' tall corner shelf unit \$10. (\$500 or best offer takes all). 989-348-8584 (-6/5)

OAK AND MAPLE FIREWOOD ready to burn \$50 per cord, split and delivered. Three cord minimum also any odd jobs, rubbish removal; also great prices. Call Chris 989-348-1870. (LR2/28/02/5)

GREAT GIFT IDEA Discount coupons from Diane's Car Wash in all price ranges. New Touchless open 24 hours. 989-348-5384. (-29-6-13-20/5)

FIREWOOD Maple, \$40 a face cord, split and delivered. 989-344-9056. (-6-13-20-27/5)

1998 ARTICAT PANTHER 2 up. \$2,500. 1997 Thundercat \$3,500. Call 989-344-1900. (-29-6/5)

CHRISTMAS TREES Best selection in northern Michigan. Starting as low as \$6.95. Five Oaks Nursery, 1-75 Business Loop, Roscommon. 989-275-5972. (-29-6-13/5)

FIREWOOD FOR SALE \$45 a cord. 989-348-1643. (-29-6-13-20-27/5)

DESTOP LABELS DELUXE Create/Professional: Mailing lists, form letters, file folder labels, tickets, inventory tags, ID tags, rolodex cards, disk labels video tape labels and much more. Special Features: Innovative label designer, powerful database and address book, print virtually any kind of barcode. Minimal System Requirements: 8X CD-Rom, 32 MB RAM, 16-bit video, Pentium 200, Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000. This set will be sold for \$15. Anyone interested can call Sandy after 6 at 989-348-2991. (11/29/01tf/5)

WHITE G.E. REFRIGERATOR \$250. Call 989-348-7202. (-6/5)

COMPLETE STEREO SYSTEM with five speakers. Call 989-348-5039. (-29-6/5)

5. For Sale

SEEN WATER SEVEN TIMES 1999 20 ft. Monarch pontoon boat. Changing room, Fish Finder, Tandem trailer, 65 h.p. Mercury outboard, canvas cover. Hurry before it get shrink wrapped. \$10,000. Call 989-344-2549. (-29-6/5)

KINGS ORCHARD CHRISTMAS TREES Douglas and Concolor Fir, Blue and Blackhills Spruce, wreaths 8 inch through 36 inch starting at \$6 through \$37. Garland/Roping, Cedar, White Pine, Fir, \$.75 per foot. On Towerhill Road across from post office. Open November 15 through December 22, 9 to 5. 989-422-6012. (LR12/13/01/5)

CHRISTMAS TREES Local trees cut fresh daily as needed. Scotch Pine, Blue Spruce, Black Hills Spruce, and Douglas Fir. Two miles from Roscommon at 11125 North Steele Rd. Telephone 989-275-8888. (-29-6-13-20/5)

220 WELDER Variable range air and electric, tools some new, grinders, air compressor, new upright freezer. 989-348-8644 or 989-348-2957. (-6/5)

4. Services Offered

COMPLETE SEPTIC TANK INSTALLATION & CLEANING Jack Millikin, Inc. 348-8411 -10/11/04

5. For Sale

Grayling Re-Do-It Re-Sale Shop We sell furniture, decor for every room & collectibles. Open Tuesday - Friday 9a - 5p, Saturday 10a - 4p. 111 N. Main Street - Grayling (One block North of Custer)

7. Miscellaneous

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

P	I	N	I	T	E	W	E	R	H	U	H
B	O	N	O	E	L	V	I	S	A	N	N
N	O	T	R	E	E	L	E	G	I	E	S
A	U	L	D	E	T	A	L	E	S		
B	E	L	G	I	U	M	V	I	A	L	
I	R	A	N	E	O	S	E	E	P	E	D
N	O	R	A	E	L	L	E	N	S	A	V
D	A	L	L	A	S	E	L	I	R	E	B
D	O	D	O	S	E	C	R	E	T	E	
K	I	D	N	A	P	I	S	E	D	S	E
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A	M	A	N	I	N	C	A	S	S	A	R
M	O	N	S	E	A	T					

8. Announcements

NOTICE

The Dec. 6th, 2001, meeting of the Grayling Eagles Auxiliary has been changed to Dec. 13th, 2001.

5. For Sale

TROY BILT CHIPPER/SHREDDER 6.5 HP B & S engine. \$450. Miller XMT 304 stick/Tig Arc welder 230/460 VAC. \$400. '82 Kawasaki KDX 175. \$850. '82 Honda ATC 110. \$700. '00 Tomos dirt bike 50cc, two speed auto, \$700. '83 Suzuki GS 650, motor needs work, as is, \$250. '82 Kawasaki 500cc, 4-cyl motor, \$150. White fiberglass hard cover for 2001 Ford SB, \$450. Call 989-348-8637. (-6/5)

FIREWOOD SEASONED OAK \$40 a cord. Also tree and brush removal, free estimates. Call 989-348-6184. (-29-6/5)

TOM'S POLE BUILDINGS 1-800-541-3974. The new Standing Lock Rib Steel Roofing. For your home and cottage by Jensen Bridge. (9/20/01tf/5)

HABITAT TABLE (trestle style) Two benches and four chairs. \$1,200. 989-348-4583. (-29-6/5)

4. Services Offered

CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY Over 10 years experience. Choose fabric in your home. FREE estimates • Pick-up & delivery Shirley Bolton (231) 258-2610

Odd-Job Enterprises Let us do your small home repairs. FREE ESTIMATES - CALL LTC. Norm Schmooch (Ret.) 348-5132 No odd jobs too small for Odd Job

7. Miscellaneous

Well Worth The Trip

Christmas Clearance Curious, desks, entertainment centers, futons, Amish dining sets plus many other items. Victorian Millworks! 1-75 exit 215, M-55, one mile West. West Branch • (989) 345-2540

8. Announcements

Home Interior and Gifts

Featured by Betty
Now Booking Parties
Please Call
231-238-0883

3. Employment

100 WORKERS NEEDED Assemble crafts, wood items. To \$480/wk. Materials provided. Free information pkg. 24 Hr. 801-428-4649

Tendercare Gaylord

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REACH 2 MILLION Michigan readers with a 2 x 2 display ad for only \$949 - Contact Linda at the Crawford County Avalanche at 989-348-6811 for details.

6. Wanted

GRAYLING MEN'S BASKETBALL league is looking for one more team. If you know of some people that want to play this season, call 989-348-9514, ask for Scott. (-6/6)

7. Wanted

SLEDHEADS OF FREDERIC for all your snowmobile parts and accessories. Call 989-DIG-SNOW. (11/29/01/f/7)

FREE TO GOOD HOME Blond Lab, spayed, excellent with kids. Call 989-344-0607. (-6/7)

8. Announcements

DARWIN'S JEWELRY REPAIR Just expanded with our New and Estate Jewelry Department. See us for Ring Sizing, Chain Repair, Watch battery and band replacement, Custom designing, etc. Quality repair. 19 plus years experience. Goldsmith; certified Gemologist. Located inside Steven's Family Circle, Downtown Grayling. Phone 989-344-1223. (LR12/27/01/8)

GREAT GIFT IDEA Discount coupons from Diane's Car Wash in all price ranges. New Touchless open 24 hours. 989-348-5384. (LR12/19/01/8)

THE MONTHLY MEETINGS of the Grayling Recreation Authority are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 8 a.m. at Hanson Hills Recreation Area. The December meeting has been changed to December 19 at 8 a.m. (-6/8)

GRAYLING HOLIDAY INN'S Speakeasy Saloon live entertainment. Wednesday thru Saturday bands playing. Nov. 28 - Dec. 1 Uncle Ugly, Dec. 5 - Dec. 8 Uncle Ugly, Dec. 19 - Dec. 22 Crowd Pleasers. (-29-6/8)

9. Personals

HE STILL HAS A BABY FACE



Wish "Jimbo" a Happy 40th Birthday!



HAPPY 55th
Mom & Dad Elekonich
Love, the kids
Joe, Joan, Janet, Jerry

Would you like to become involved in your community?
The Crawford County United Way needs your help!
We are currently seeking active Board Members and volunteers.
For more information contact:
Crawford County United Way
Cindy Timmons,
Executive Director
at (989) 344-9300.



8. Announcements

ANTIQUE AND COLLECTIBLE CHRISTMAS decorations at Yorty's Antiques. Open 11-5 Saturdays. County Rd. 200 by First Bank, Higgins Lake. (-29-6/8)

ADVERTISING DEADLINES: Regular Display - 1/2 to full page, 5 p.m. Thursday. All others 5 p.m. Friday. Classified Display - 12 noon Monday. Classified by the word - 12 noon Tuesday. These deadlines may change with notice due to holidays or special publication.

11. Automotive

BANKRUPT, SLOW PAY, COLLECTIONS, CHARGE OFFS? SCHEER MOTORS NOW HAS A SPECIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT TO HELP OUR CREDIT CHALLENGED CUSTOMERS. Call or stop by today and ask Scott for a confidential credit interview. (800) 968-8848 or (517) 348-5451. -13/11/11

10. Garage Sales

GRAYLING RE-DO-IT SHOP/RESALE Shop. 111 Vilas St., one block north of Cueters. 989-348-2856. (11/8/01/f/10)

11. Automotive

1987 BUICK LESABRE SEDAN V6, 3.8 liter. Automatic, needs some repair or maybe just for parts, fair condition, asking \$500. 989-348-6184. (-6/11)

1993 LUMINA Runs good. Looks good. \$1,800. 989-348-2239 (-6/11)

1996 GMC SONOMA ZR2 4x4 Loaded, new tires. 118,000 miles. \$9,250 or best. 1978 Chevy 1/2 ton pick-up 4x4 with plow. \$1,000 or best. 989-705-7878, ext. 41 leave message or 989-348-8843 evenings. (-6-13/11)

11. Automotive

1992 CHEVY CAPRICE PLUS Senior owned, loaded, 41,000 original miles, new tires, brakes, trailer hitch. \$4,200. Call 989-348-4301. (-6-13/11)

'99 RED RANGER New tires plus four tires, Tonneau cover, air, bed liner, excellent shape. \$9,000. 989-348-4649. (-6/11)

'85 BLAZER with snow plow. \$2,800 O.B.O. 989-348-2697. (-6/11)

1987 SUBURBAN in good running condition. Call 989-348-6611 and leave message. (-6-13-20/11)

THE CAR LOT is always open in the Avalanche classifieds. (989) 348-6811

THE CLASSIFIED - The perfect place to find that first car. (989) 348-6811

7. Miscellaneous

EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Our office will close at noon on Monday, Christmas Eve, December 24th. Deadlines for the December 27th Avalanche will be:

Display Ads -- Wed. Dec. 19 5 pm
Community News -- Thurs. Dec. 20 5 pm
Classified Display Ads -- Thurs. Dec. 20 5 pm
Classified Ads by the word -- Fri. Dec. 21 by noon

The Avalanche office will reopen on Wednesday, December 26th at 9 am.

11. Automotive

HUGE USED CAR



(We're not kidding, these are our lowest prices of the year!)

Next to New Cars

99 CADILLAC DeVILLE D'ELEGANCE Wow! White Diamond Cadillac is a girl's best friend. Loaded with a lot of goodies! D'Elegance is the top of the line Cadillac - it will be gone before you have it! #00253 Was \$17,998 Starting at \$15,998	1999 CHRYSLER CONCORDE LXI Loaded with leather. Super low miles! Clean as they come. What they call a cream puff! #16530-1 Was \$17,998 Starting at \$15,998
99 BUICK LESABRE Sand beige with lots of equipment! Clean as a whistle! #04461 Was \$16,998 Blowout Price \$13,998	98 BUICK PARK AVENUE Beautiful car, equipped, not stripped. Leather, all the goodies! #47701 Was \$16,998 Blowout Price \$14,998
01 CHRYSLER INTREPID Black, Sharp, and Cheap! Don't pay \$25,000! #4725 Was \$17,998 Blowout Price \$14,998	99 CHEVROLET MALIBU LS Loaded! Leather with power moon roof, CD, all of the goodies! Low miles! Won't last long! #4449 Was \$18,998 Blowout Price \$12,998
99 BUICK CENTURY Nice car, good color, nicely equipped and on sale now! #4640 Was \$13,998 Blowout Price \$10,998	99 OLDSMOBILE AURORA White Diamond Paint, power moon roof, CD, all of the extras! Low miles! #4433 Was \$21,998 Blowout Price \$16,998
97 BUICK REGAL 4 dr., LS, leather interior, CD/cassette, very clean! The perfect! Stock #10481 Was \$12,998 Blowout Price \$10,998	99 CADILLAC SEVILLE Really sharp with leather and all of the options! You gotta see this one! #2279 Was \$26,998 Blowout Price \$19,998

Clean Cars - Under \$10,000

93 OLDSMOBILE 88 REGAL Loaded with options! Not as a piece of junk! \$1,000 miles! This one won't last! #10051 Was \$6,998 Blowout Price \$3,998	94 BUICK PARK AVENUE Beautiful! Condition and has a lot of the best in it. Leather, loaded! Used cars in this condition don't last! #4001-1 Was \$7,998 Blowout Price \$5,998
00 PONTIAC Auto with air! A great economy car! #070 Was \$11,998 Blowout Price \$8,998	96 OLDSMOBILE CHEV Very clean, V6, leather, great! Won't last long! #1044 Was \$4,998 Blowout Price \$3,998
93 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL Nice clean car, fancy ride for an economy price! #1741 Was \$4,998 Blowout Price \$3,498	

Next to New Trucks and Vans

1996 FORD TAURUS Auto, with air, a very nice car for the money! #17482-2 Was \$8,998 Blowout Price \$3,998	97 OLDSMOBILE ACHIEVA 4 Dr. Auto with Air, power options, very clean! #1839-1 Was \$8,998 Blowout Price \$3,998
97 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL Leather, clean, loaded, great seat! #1770-1 Was \$12,998 Blowout Price \$7,998	94 CHEVROLET CAPRICE CLASSIC Leather, V8, not as a piece of junk! They don't make 'em like this anymore! Only 64,000 miles. #15311-2 Was \$9,998 Blowout Price \$6,998
98 PONTIAC SUNFIRE COUPE Auto with Air! Red and Sharp! Only 29,000 miles! #417 Was \$10,998 Blowout Price \$8,998	98 OLDSMOBILE INTRIQUE Very clean and loaded with options! Clean mid size car with lots of pizzazz! #4752 Was \$13,998 Blowout Price \$9,998
95 CHEVY LUMINA One owner, clean as they come! Only 31,000 miles! #2551 Was \$9,998 Blowout Price \$7,998	98 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE Drive a Sharp Grand Am for the price other people pay for a Cavalier! #4783 Was \$10,998 Blowout Price \$8,998
92 OLDSMOBILE NINETY EIGHT Luxury at an affordable price! Very good condition! Don't wait! Stock #1044-1 Was \$4,998 Blowout Price \$2,998	97 BUICK LESABRE Very Clean and Sharp for a price you won't be able to pass up! Don't pay too much for a piece of junk! Stock #1034-1 Was \$11,998 Blowout Price \$9,498
96 CHEVY K1500 EXT. CAB 4X4 Really nice truck with nice "Leather" floor mats, power windows, 5.7 V8, really good tires. Fully equipped! Stock #1052-1 Was \$14,998 Blowout Price \$12,998	01 DODGE DAKOTA QUAD CAB 4 full doors, 4x4, black, loaded, V8, under 20,000 miles! What a truck! Don't miss your chance! #10272-1 Was \$22,998 Blowout Price \$20,998
99 CHEVY K1500 Extended Cab 4x4, 250 V8, chrome trim, 3.9 liter, loaded up! #0021 Was \$10,998 Blowout Price \$7,998	2000 OLDSMOBILE BRAYADA Loaded with power moon roof, leather, loaded seats, the works! Low miles! Super power color! This one will be gone if you wait! #22041 Was \$22,998 Blowout Price \$19,998
98 CHEVY BLAZER Real clean, LS with lots of equipment! A great buy! #4783-1 Was \$10,998 Blowout Price \$14,998	98 DODGE RAM CLUB CAB 4x4, 31, V4, fully loaded and great! Stock #1037-1 Was \$16,998 Blowout Price \$14,998

Clean Trucks, SUVs and Vans under \$10,000

00 CHEVY TRACKER 4 DR. 2 Wheel drive Sport Utility, Auto, Air, Lots of options! #4611 Was \$13,498 Blowout Price \$9,998	97 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT MINIVAN Nicely equipped and ready for your family! #4707 Was \$11,998 Blowout Price \$9,798
95 GMC JIMMY 4 dr. 4x4 SLE - Sharp! Two tone paint, loaded with options, great condition! #18343-1 Was \$13,998 Blowout Price \$9,498	98 CHEVY TRACKER 2DR. 4X4 CONVERTIBLE Auto, Air, Music, All the essentials! Only 20,000 miles. #4746 Was \$11,998 Blowout Price \$9,998
95 JEEP WRANGLER Soft top, manual transmission, a 4x4 wrangler for a great price! Stock #1070 Was \$4,998 Blowout Price \$4,998	97 CHEVY ASTROVAN Really clean customized van for a great price! You can't find another van this nice for this money! Don't miss! Stock #10521-1 Was \$7,998 Blowout Price \$5,998
94 JEEP CHEROKEE 4 DR. 4X4 Good condition, under 100,000 miles and a great price! Stock #10311-2 Was \$6,998 Blowout Price \$4,998	95 CHEVY G20 CONVERSION VAN Only 55,000 miles! Loaded and ready for your family! Stock #10512-2 Was \$11,998 Blowout Price \$9,998
94 FORD RANGER Reg. Cab. 2nd Long box, only 54,000 miles. 4 spd, manual, very clean, great seat! #10523-3 Was \$4,998 Blowout Price \$4,998	

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Patriotic plates a real hit

In one month's time, Michigan Secretary of State Candice Miller said nearly 10,500 "Proud To Be American" license plates were sold, generating about \$130,000 for the Salvation Army and the American Red Cross.

Miller credits the public's desire to show their love and support for the United States as reason why the license plates are selling so well.

The red, white, and blue license plate features a dark blue silhouette of Michigan with the American flag superimposed over it. The phrase, "Proud To Be American" is featured across the bottom.

Residents ordering the license plate pay \$35 in addition to their annual registration fee, of which \$25 of the \$35 is divided equally between the two aforementioned charities. The remaining \$10 pays for the production and mailing of the license plate. A disability license plate is available at no extra cost.

Every time the "Proud To Be American" plate is renewed, a \$10 fee is collected and shared between the Salvation Army and the American Red Cross.

A personalized patriotic license plate is available for an additional \$30. Residents may use up to five characters when personalizing a plate. The renewal fee for a personalized plate is \$15.

A special collector's version of the patriotic plate bearing the "Proud To Be American" slogan is available for a one-time fee of \$35. Collector plates may not be used in place of a vehicle's registered license plate.

The patriotic license plate may be ordered at any branch office or by downloading an order form at: www.sos.state.mi.us and mailed or faxed. Ordering information will also be included with vehicle registration renewal notices. Call any branch office for more information.

Hazardous material haulers may undergo background checks

Michigan Secretary of State Candice S. Miller has called for strengthening federal legislation to mandate a criminal background check for any individual applying for a commercial driver license (CDL) with a hazardous materials (hazmat) endorsement.

Miller noted the CDL program in Michigan, as in other states, follows requirements outlined in federal law. However, she said in light of recent events and concerns about vehicles hauling hazardous material, it would be both prudent and appropriate to complete a background check before a CDL with a hazmat endorsement is issued.

"Certainly, at a minimum, it would be reasonable to require a criminal background check," Secretary Miller said. "The check could be completed in a timely manner."

"Following the events of September 11, every governmental agency that has any licensing responsibilities needs to reevaluate all of its processes," Miller said. "This will be the first of many suggested changes for our department."

While she noted the legislative change would require federal action, Miller pledged to explore a change in the Michigan Vehicle Code as well.

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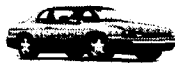
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- ** Current Utility Bill
- ** Last Paystub

** Name, Address and Phone # of 6 References.
Most should be relatives**

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